

# MICHIGAN FARMER

## AND STATE JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.

The Only Agricultural and Live Stock Journal in the State.

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### Farm Department.

#### THE EDITOR'S FARM NOTES.

##### THE ROADS.

In this section the roads have been good lately for the simple reason that the ground is frozen and the track made smooth by almost incessant travel.

Wide tire wagons are almost universally used, and the writer can go out to the farm, or in any direction from Battle Creek, on a bicycle as well as in midsummer. Every farmer feels good when the roads are so fine, but the weather is now indicating a "break-up," and in less than 48 hours we may have "any amount of mud."

However, the roads in this territory are nearly always good. Men who understand their business have had charge of the work, and they are the farmers who live contiguous to the track. The road machines, or graders, properly handled, have accomplished wonders in "making up" a road bed.

The best roads have the track center just high enough to afford good surface drainage. The poorest roads that have received a course of treatment from the grader and ignorant manipulator thereof have an abnormally high center. This makes a poor track for any load that does not pass exactly astride the ridge. There are many such ridges over sections of highway all through the country.

It seems to us a good plan for farmers to get together and study practical road-making occasionally. Actual practice and instruction furnished by an expert over a small piece of road during the early summer would be of considerable benefit to the pathmasters of a township. This refers more particularly to the road grader.

##### WHY NOT? THE STATE FAIR.

Why would it not be a good plan to have some expert work in road-making shown up at the country fairs? What are fairs for anyway?

How much better it would have been if the State Fair officials had shut out

the gamblers and vileness they allowed free rein inside the grounds last September, and made the show an agricultural fair, in the full acceptance of the term.

If they had the interest of the farmers of the State at heart, why did they not plan for and arrange such amuse-

crops on or near the grounds, then arrange for a competition test of corn harvesters, binders, potato diggers, etc., as John Cowrie has done for several years at the Iowa State Fair? Why not?

Why could not they arrange for some practice in road construction on or

oughly in the agricultural papers, what would happen? Why more farmers in Michigan would attend the fair in one season than have attended during the last half dozen years. Nothing of this sort has been attempted, to our knowledge, but why not?

If the judging of live stock could be planned and carried out somewhat as Profs. Smith and Mumford conduct the work before the classes in live stock husbandry at the M. A. C., it would afford much interest and instruction to farmers who attend the State Fair. And we guarantee a good crowd of farmers would be present whenever possible to attend. Why could not some such substantial improvement be made along this line? Why not?

##### PAINTING WITH PETROLEUM.

Several communications have reached us asking whether crude petroleum is referred to by those who use this material in painting. We suppose the crude material, as it comes from the wells, is used for this purpose, but will refer the answer to others.

##### MORE ABOUT BEET MOLASSES.

In The Michigan Farmer of Nov. 26th, I see that L. P. Adolph wishes to know how to make molasses out of sugar beets. I raised quite a few beets, both for experimental purposes and for cattle feed, this year for the first time. I had some of the beets grated on a power cider grater, and pressed through straw; the juice and pomace was perfectly clear and white when it left the grater but soon turned dark. When I had the juice evaporated the next day it was inky black, the molasses resembling New Orleans molasses in taste and color. Will send you a sample by express.

Next year I will try a different way. I will have the beet roots steamed and pressed through cloths, as I think the molasses will be clearer then.

Kent Co., Mich. JOS. P. CORDES.  
The sample came "O. K." and was duly sampled by every member of the Brown family. Each sample swallow was "short," but very sweet, and we all felt pretty well "stuck up" over the fact that it was our first taste of

**A CHRISTMAS DREAM**  
Words and Music by Robt. C. Marquis.

I heard the An-gels heav'n-ly light, O ho-ly An-gel  
sweet-ly sing ing der Ju-de-as plain, ho-ly night, O wing ed An-gel  
mess-en-gers, what ti-dings do ye bring?

**Chorus.**  
I dreamed I was a Shep-herd in Ju-de-a long a-go, And watch'd my flock on the  
hill-side, as the eve-ning shades were low.

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beet juice under the "new dispensation."

The molasses tasted exactly like the sorghum we used to make, and we would never dream that the substance was extracted from beets. The sugar beet business in this State is bound to grow to enormous proportions in the next few years, and ultimately all the sugar consumed in this State will be manufactured within its borders.

WRITE FOR THE MICHIGAN FARMER.

Brother farmers, just pause long enough to read the above invitation over a score or more times, until the medicine takes effect. Then sit right down and write us something about how it feels to be a farmer during these times. How does farming look to you anyway? Isn't it more encouraging than it was a year or two ago? How are you planning to take advantage of the improved conditions on your farm for next year?

For The Michigan Farmer.

#### SOWING CLOVER; WHEN, HOW AND WHAT FOR?

I see that a number of your writers and readers are telling what they know about clover, and as it is too stormy today to husk corn at two cents a bushel, I will give you my experience and observation.

I never tried sowing clover alone, but I have seen a number of pieces that were planted that way, and it appears that if you want it for the pasture or for the benefit of the land, it is one of the best plans in the world, but if for hay, you are likely to lose in the operation.

Another of your writers thinks that because he had an extra yield of wheat he should have a good stand of clover. This is a mistake, as a rule. It is not often that a good stand of clover can be had where there is a large yield of wheat, and the reason is obvious. The land can only do so much for us, and if the wheat has the start, it is obvious that the clover must take its chances on what the ground has to spare after furnishing nourishment for the wheat crop.

Last year I had a poor piece of wheat on overworked land, and I wanted it started in clover. As soon as the land was dry enough I had the wheat harrowed and then the clover was sowed on that, and a part of the ground was harrowed again. The wheat itself looked worthless, but yielded over twenty bushels to the acre, and the clover was excellent, especially where it was harrowed after sowing. Other pieces that were planted in the old way only a few rods distant, were plowed up again for another trial.

Now, what do we sow clover for? Either hay or for fertilizing, surely. We know how we get the hay, but I am inclined to think that some of the reasoning is wrong on the fertilizing side of the subject. There is some advantage in the change of crops, naturally, and so would there be if we changed from wheat to corn. Some say it is the roots, but all there is of the roots was taken from the same land a short time before, and that doesn't look reasonable. When the crop gets a start, say about the middle of June, a mower that will shave the earth is run over the ground, and everything except the roots is taken off. The same operation is performed as soon as the seed is matured, so it would seem that if anything it must be the roots that does the fertilizing, if any is done at all. The fact is, in my opinion, that there is not any more done than would be done if the change was made with any other crop, and yet we get in the habit of talking of clover as a great fertilizer.

Now, this brings us right up to the Auglaze Co., O. man's idea that manure doesn't evaporate. Nearly every person who has taken a ride on the other side of a field from the wind on a hot, windy day after a lot of manure has been spread over the ground, knows that something does evaporate, and that it is not the water, either. The atmosphere is a great distributor and is likewise a great thief, and it hides all it steals, too; it takes things from the hot sun and hides them in the shady places.

You may take dry hemlock lumber and cover the ground closely, leaving a small space between the lumber and the ground, and the land may be ever so poor, but in a very short space of time it will become immensely rich and present the appearance of newly cleared land without the stumps. If you are short of lumber, try clover, and it will work the same, but you must leave all the leaves that make such a

beautiful shade until all the hot days are past, and then you will find out just what clover will do as a fertilizer, and I have yet to see that it has ever done any good in that line in any other way. How was it done? Easy enough. The sun and the wind took up the phosphates and ammonia from the next farm, where the owner did not believe that manure would evaporate, and carried it over and hid it under the wide leaves of clover, the same as it did under the lumber.

If there is any other way that clover can do any particular good as a fertilizer I have as yet failed to find it out, but I have known of many cases where this plan has worked wonders in the way of bringing up overworked land. Sowing clover for fertilizing purposes, and then shaying it close to the ground twice in the hottest season of the year, reminds me of the farmer who went to mill on horseback. He placed the sack of grain on the horse and then mounted that and rode half way and then took the sack of grain on his own shoulder and again mounted the horse, and thus rested the animal while he made the other half of the trip.

Marshall Co., Ind. J. A. MILLER.  
(Friend Miller furnishes a little variety to what has been written upon this subject by some of our brother farmers, and we know it will provoke some discussion. Send it in right away, before it gets cold.—Ed.)

For The Michigan Farmer.

#### MADE SOME BROWN SUGAR.

In reply to L. P. Adolph, I will say that in November, 1897, I ground some sugar beets to see what I could do in the way of making sugar. The greatest trouble I had in boiling was that the syrup seemed to foam just like soapuds, but nevertheless I made some very good molasses which tasted like that made from sugar cane. Some three months after making, the small amount remaining turned to a fine soft sugar.

From the experience I had I know that a good quality of molasses can be made and also that a soft sugar of dark brown color can be produced by the use of only a cider mill and jelly evaporator. I think if I had added some water to the juice and then clarified with lime water, better results would have been obtained. Without the water it was so thick that it foamed too much. I think I shall try it again next year, trying some improved methods of which I have learned. If any readers of The Farmer wish to hear more about this subject I will give my experience more in detail.

Clinton Co., Mich. L. C. CLARK.  
(Certainly, we wish to hear all about your experience in sugar beet culture during the past season.—Ed.)

For The Michigan Farmer.

#### ECONOMY IN CORN FODDER.

In the dairy line we must study economy in every way, and in using corn fodder for feeding instead of hay there is a chance of saving a considerable item in the annual expenses. It is only a question of time when corn fodder will be largely substituted for hay, especially in the great corn-growing belt of states. It requires rich land and constant attention to keep up a large yield of grass and hay, and the same amount of labor and expense devoted to the raising of a corn crop would yield far more in quantity to the acre.

Before the ensilage question was treated on this side of the ocean very little general attention was given to corn fodder, except as a side crop for feeding green in summer to make the cows enjoy the solid food better. The corn fodder was obtained chiefly from the sweet corn patch after all the ears were broken off for house use. But now ensilage has become an indispensable winter food for cattle, sheep and even horses. It is also certain that as winter dairying progresses, corn for ensilage will be used more extensively, with better results than heretofore.

In fact, it is difficult for the writer to understand how dairying can be conducted successfully without the constant use of the silo, and corn for filling it. A sweet, succulent food is absolutely necessary for the cows in winter, and this can be obtained from using corn ensilage. Cows fed on this will give a good flow of milk right through the coldest weather.

The relative value of a crop of corn and a crop of hay on an acre of land cannot be estimated unless the fixed

quantity and the nutritive elements of the two are considered. In quantity it may be said without exaggeration that on a given piece of land about four times as much green fodder for soiling can be raised in one season as green grass; but when the cows eat the grass as pasture the quantity is considerably less. One acre will not by any means support a cow in grass, but an acre of corn will. Here is the difference in the quantity.

As to nutritive value there can be no question that corn fodder ranks higher than grass in nearly all of the elements that make fat, bone and muscle. This is proved not only by scientific analysis but by practical experience. When fifteen cows are brought through a summer on fourteen acres of land planted with corn, where formerly nearly seventy acres barely gave the same herd sufficient to eat, it is pretty evident that there is nutrition in corn fodder to answer all purposes. Yet that is what happened, and that is one reason why more corn fodder and less hay should be raised for dairy cows, and even for sheep and horses.

E. P. SMITH.

#### INFORMATION WANTED.

##### GROWING SUGAR BEETS—RETAIL MILK TRADE.

We are considering the question of building a beet sugar factory at Kalamazoo, and consequently the farmers in general are desirous of gaining all knowledge possible pertaining to raising and harvesting the beet crop.

We would also like more articles on the retail milk trade, instead of running everything to butter making.

Kalamazoo, Co., Mich. C. S. BENDER.  
(Cannot some reader of The Farmer, who raised beets for the Bay City factory, give us his experience in producing this season's crop? We should also like to hear from friend J. Y. Clark, of Oakland Co., concerning his experience in detail.)

We have asked several dairymen engaged in the retail milk trade to write up some of their experience in The Farmer. If friend Bender is in this business, he should set the ball rolling for a "starter."

A Battle Creek customer recently found some "cistern pump extract" in her milk one morning in the shape of a white worm. Can some milkman explain this?—Ed.)

#### HOGS AMONG THISTLES.

I saw in The Farmer of December 10th that Arthur Fox's method of killing Canada thistles is by cutting and applying salt. Have tried it, and it worked very satisfactorily.

When the thistles are near the buildings we prefer letting the hogs exterminate them. When hogs get a taste of them they are as fond of them as artichokes. I fenced in one acre and they took out every root.

The nature of a hog is to root, and by sowing some corn among the thistles in the spring, in April or May, to get them started, they will go to the bottom of every root.

Macomb Co., Mich. WM. B. NORTON.  
(Is there any patent on this? We never heard of this plan before, but no doubt it is a good one when hogs can be fenced in with a small patch. How many of the unfortunate possessors of thistle patches have drafted their hogs into service for this combat?—Ed.)

#### TOBACCO GROWING IN FRANCE.

As a good many farmers in Wayne and Oakland counties are discussing the advisability of engaging, more or less largely, in the business of tobacco growing, the condition of the industry in other parts of the world is of interest. Our Paris correspondent says the growers in France are at present in a state of great despondency. They number 52,000 and are chiefly peasant farmers. The growth of the "weed" is limited by the authorities to 35,000 acres, which are situated in 23 departments. The reason of the grief is, that the state encourages the purchase of foreign tobacco leaf, to the detriment, and in violation of, the legal compact of the years 1810 and 1835, that was to limit foreign purchases to one-fifth of the home raisings.

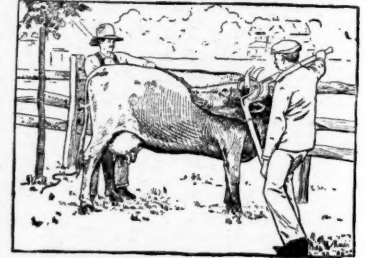
France buys annually foreign tobacco worth 24 millions of francs; her own crop is 23,000 tons of leaf, that realizes 20 millions of francs. The output does not much vary. When all the tobaccos are mixed the sales realize for the exchequer 382 millions of

francs. The price to the cultivator paid by the state is 86½ francs per two cuts. The peasant is not allowed to grow tobacco till accorded permission by the state; then he must subscribe to sell all the leaf, at a price fixed in advance by the excise, and to have all the operations of culture and saving the crop watched by officials. The stems and roots, after the gathering of the leaf, are to be burned. In case of non-compliance he is treated as a contrabandist, fined, and the crop forfeited. With the last three years tobacco has fallen 14 per cent in French culture, and the importations from abroad increased in the same ratio. The prospects are far from encouraging.

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#### About Feed Grinders.

We take it that after all that has been said on the advantages and economy of grinding grain for stock it is no longer necessary to talk to our readers on that phase of the subject. The question most naturally arising in the minds of many is what kind of a grinder to buy. We call attention to a grinder which has given very good satisfaction in the past, and which is reasonable enough in price to come within the reach of all. This is the Star Sweep Mill, manufactured by the Star Mfg. Co. of New Lexington, O. It is capable of a wide range of work, crushing and grinding ear corn, cob and all, and all smaller grains and seeds singly or when mixed. It grinds easily 10 to 35 bushels per hour, according to whether the grist is fine or coarse.

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### HIS IDEAS ABOUT HORSES.

To the Editor of The Michigan Farmer.

I saw something in a recent issue of your paper about the Morgan horse. When I was a lad I used to see large bills at every cross-roads of famous stallions, whose pedigrees almost invariably traced to Justin Morgan or old grey Messenger. Messenger was all right, for he was a Thoroughbred, and there never was any dispute about his breeding so far as I have ever heard or read. But Justin Morgan's origin was always in doubt. Some gave it as by Morton's Traveller, others by imp. Wild Air, Beautiful Bay, etc., and yet another tradition says he was by a French pony (used as a teaser to one of the horses named) called Paddy, and out of a Thoroughbred mare. I have always believed the latter to be the more reasonably, as the Morgan resembled the Canadian French pony more than he did the Thoroughbred. At any rate the Morgans were a true type and strong breeders, and perpetuated their type and disposition. I heartily wish we had some of them now to breed to.

The farmers throughout the country have been breeding to the beefy Norman, the whiskers-legged Clyde, or the little curby-legged Hambletonian, till it is hard to find a good sound horse. Normans and Clydes are all right in their place, but they ought to be full-bloods to be of much value to my way of thinking.

The breed that has done more to give us a horse of some substance and lasting qualities is simply ignored by the farmers generally, also by our State Fair officials. That horse is the Thoroughbred; and yet our State Fair offers no premiums for the Thoroughbred class. Give me a horse with Thoroughbred blood in him, and plenty of it, for anything. If the farmers would use good sized Thoroughbreds with the modern farm mares, we would soon have a class of horses that would sell for livery, carriage and general purpose. A great many people have a wrong idea about the Thoroughbred. They see him at the race-course with a jockey on him, and trying to get off in the lead, and because he rears and plunges a little, they call him vicious. Take any one of your dunghills, or Normans, put a boy on him, let the spurs stick half way through him, and see if he would not plunge. In fact he would just about fall down and break his neck. The Thoroughbred is the most intelligent and kind horse in the world if treated kindly.

I have been requested to give some of the points of what I call a perfect horse. I will give some of the measurements of one that I have just measured with a tape line. Sixteen hands high; weighs, 1200 lbs.; forearm, 22 inches; above gambrel, 21 inches; hip, 29 inches; clean cut neck, small ear, wide between eyes, and has a half mile running record of 48 seconds. This horse was raced until eleven years old, then put to work, and there never was a kinder or truer horse. He is now 16, and as smart as a colt. I would like to see the horse of his weight that can out-pull him, and he is a Thoroughbred. His name is Red Oak.

FARMER.

The suggestions made by "Farmer" will not be new to our readers. This paper has repeatedly called attention to the valuable qualities of the Thoroughbred horse. But, unfortunately, those who have the breeding of the Thoroughbred in their hands are only anxious to perpetuate the speedy weed which can go a half mile or six furlongs in the quickest possible time. Such horses can win more money than the heavier and more substantial type of the good old-fashioned four-miler which has been entirely excluded from the course. Such horses as the latter are never used in the stud. The get of the speedy Himyar brings the best prices, while the descendants of Long-fellow, a horse of great substance and endurance, are not salable if they take after him in conformation. Hence we see the best qualities of the breed absolutely thrown away—qualities which made it the greatest horse in the world, and the one which has done more to improve all other breeds, except the drafts, than any other that ever existed.

### PROTESTS AGAINST DOCKING.

It is the general opinion that the wealthy classes in Great Britain, as well as the nobility, demand that their hunters, cobs and driving horses should be docked. At least one nobleman, Earl Spencer, has declared his opposition to the practice in very strong terms. Here is what he said at a meeting of the members of the Royal Agricultural Society:

"As to affecting the supply of the country, he could not believe that in the least. Would they say that because they made a better looking animal, and one more in accordance with nature, that they would drive the people who bought horses from the country? He could not allow that for a moment. It was entirely a question of fashion. In old days it was the fashion to crop horses' ears, and it was a singular thing with regard to this question of horses' tails that the horse which they considered the pride of England—viz, the race horse—always had the longest tail possible. Where they required to diminish weight they still kept the tail. He was very glad to think they did so. With respect to hunters; there was no doubt in his mind that it was an enormous addition to the beauty of a horse to have a good tail, and he went so far as to say that the docking of a horse was prejudicial to its power of turning. The greatest discomfort and cruelty to a horse was its being deprived of the power of whisking away flies while in the field. The system of leaving foals and breeding mares with a miserable pretense of a tail was barbarous, and he might almost say, indecent."

The above statements show that the feeling against docking is steadily gaining ground, and the agricultural press could do a great service to these ill-treated animals by a general condemnation of the practice. There is not one good reason in existence for this cruel, senseless, and indecent practice.

The fact that some export sheep were brought here last week shows that conditions are getting more favorable across the water. The competition from Argentine and Iceland has prevented our exporters from doing anything with sheep since last spring, but now that these supplies have diminished the foreign markets have recovered sufficiently to encourage shipments. Our fed western sheep are well liked in England, and as our sheep feeders have not only improved the quality but are finishing their sheep younger, their popularity is becoming more pronounced. Whether or not many sheep will be exported this winter will depend on the state of the trade across the Atlantic which, at present, is promising.—Drovers' Journal.

### HORSE GOSSIP.

It is expected the number of horses which entered the 2:30 list the past season will reach 1,900, and perhaps more. It looks as if a lowering of the standard record would have to be made soon. The list is getting so large as to be unwieldy.

It is now said that William Browne, of Kalamazoo, son of the late S. A. Browne, who recently purchased Cresceus, 2:00 1/4, at the sale of Mr. Ketcham's horses, did so for a New Yorker, and that this greatest son of Robert McGregor will not come to Michigan.

A report comes from England that a firm in Sheffield, England, are now making a steel harness trace, consisting of a narrow ribbon of steel, from 3/4 to 1 inch wide, rolled very thin and cased in leather. A single trace of this kind when tested at the Sheffield testing works recorded a tensile breaking strain of 4,575 pounds, while an ordinary leather trace of the best quality, tested at the same time, broke at a strain of 2,700 pounds.

For the first time in the history of the National Trotting Association, a Canadian member—William Christie, of Toronto, Ont.—sat with the Board of Review at its last meeting. The American trotter is a favorite in the Provinces, and well bred ones are to be met with in every section. Besides that the Canadians have bred some families of their own—notably the Clear Grits—descended from Clear Grit, a son of the thoroughbred horse imp. Lapidist.

J. F. Clark, for his entire life since he arrived at the age of manhood jockey club judge at Epsom and Doncaster, England, died recently at the

advanced age of 83 years. His father and grandfather were judges also. One of Judge Clark's theories was that it was a bad thing for the good of the breeding of horses when the date from which horses take their ages was altered from the first of May to the first of January. He attributed the great increase in roaring to that fact, because breeders so arranged matters that the foals came at an inclement season, when there was no grass, and they were often cooped up in close boxes for weeks together, with the result that when they were turned out they caught cold, and the seeds of roaring were sown. With the foals coming in May, on the other hand, the sun would probably be shining on them, and there would be plenty of young grass for the dams to eat.

Maryland has lost a large number of horses during the past year from cerebro-spinal meningitis and the statement of Dr. S. M. Buckley, veterinarian of the Maryland Agricultural College, on the subject, sent us by our Washington correspondent, may be interesting to horse owners in other sections as well. He says: "Reject all mouldy grain or fodder, and where possible to make a complete change in diet, do so, allowing wheat bran to form part of the ration. For the benefit of those who are compelled to use corn for fodder I would suggest shelling or breaking off the damaged portion of the ear and culling out the damaged fodder. In such cases food should be salted and a powder made up as follows to be judiciously used in the feed: Mix powdered nux vomica, 1 ounce; gentian, 4 ounces; caraway seeds, 4 ounces, and bicarbonate of soda, 4 ounces. Divide into twelve powders and give one twice a day in the feed."

Just what the National Trotting Association will do regarding the rule which bars hobbled horses from the tracks belonging to that association after January 2 is a matter of considerable speculation among horsemen. Many are of the opinion that the rule will be rescinded, while others assert that it will be left just as it is, and that the track managers will get around it by waiving the rule, which, it is said, can be done without hindrance. It is a fact that the owners of hobbled horses, and they are legion, are not worrying at all over the future, apparently full of confidence that the opportunity for racing their horses will be as plentiful in the future as they have been in the past. That hobbled horses are not desirable is something which all horsemen agree, and that they are very dangerous to life and limb when racing is something that nine-tenths of the drivers believe, but it is likely that they will, for some years at least, continue to take part in track contests. As road horses the members of the hobbled brigade are about as desirable as saw-horses, and that they are so regarded by the public is shown whenever one is put up at public sale.—Horse World.

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### SHIAWASSEE SHEEP NOTES.

There are probably very few portions of the State where there are more sheep fed than in a little section in the vicinity of the village of Vernon this county. In one of our local papers there were recently given some figures that will be interesting to note. The total number of feeding sheep brought into this town during the past few months, expressly for feeding purposes, was fifty-five car loads, numbering some 16,500 head. To procure this amount of stock required an investment of some \$48,500; the amount of feed that will be required to put this number of sheep into marketable condition is estimated at not less than \$15,000, which, added to the cost, will make a neat sum of something like \$63,500. This will be more fully appreciated when it is considered that the larger portion by far of this number of sheep are being fed in a half of a single township. They are owned by farmers who are feeding all the way from a few up to flocks numbered by the thousands.

This particular section has been locally noted for its sheep feeding for some time. The feeders have gradually worked themselves up in the business until they have seemingly mastered the subject of buying western sheep, feeding them Michigan produce and putting them in condition for market. These men are undoubtedly making money at the business. At any rate they are solving the problem of how to keep up the fertility of the soil, and still farm for all there is in it. Many of these farms are fast beginning to show the effects of lots of manure by consuming the rough stuff at home, and returning it to the land again as it should be, and which must be the case unless the owner soon wishes to know that he is the owner of a "ruined" farm. I have yet to know of an instance where the sheep was the ruin of a farm, but I would have little difficulty in picking instances where too little live stock and too much grain has had its effect.

Some few issues ago I recall reading a warning in this department, calling attention to the danger of importing sheep from western localities for feeding purposes on account of bringing undesirable sheep diseases as well. There can be little doubt but what there is more or less danger in bringing sheep from strange localities, either for feeding or breeding purposes, and especially the former. In fact it is very poor policy to import any kind of live stock into your yards unless you feel entirely confident of the surroundings from which they came. When a person buys stock it stands him well in hand to consider from a sanitary point of view, as well as the quality of the stock, for the purpose for which they are intended goes without saying. So far as I have been able to learn these farmers in this county who are doing considerable feeding, and are consequently bringing a large number of sheep into the county every year, have never been troubled by fetching any contagious sheep diseases along with their importations. This has been, doubtless, due largely to the fact that considerable care has been exercised in making selections and shipping.

The coming County Farmers' Institute this year is to be held at Vernon. As this village is situated in the midst of the sheep-feeding community referred to above, an effort is on foot to make the sheep quite a prominent factor in the program. The management have in mind a sheep-feeding contest among the prominent feeders; each is to select one of his best specimens to bring to the institute as a representative of what his particular style of feeding will produce. There is little doubt but what such a feature would be an attracting number on the program, and would create a great deal of interest not only among sheep men, but stock raisers in general. There is no question but what this somewhat new departure, for this county at least, will be a success; already sufficient sheep have been promised to insure all that could be hoped for, and it is more than probable that more will be added to the list between now and the date of the institute. I understand that

the village of Vernon intends to offer a suitable prize to the feeder who exhibits the best marketable sheep; this will no doubt stimulate an effort to show only the best.

It is expected that Prof. Mumford, of the Agricultural College, will be present, and give a general, instructive talk on sheep and sheep feeding, drawing practical illustrations from the specimens of fatted stock on exhibition. He will probably be called upon to place the awards. Everything seems favorable that the experiment will be all that it is designed to be—a practical matter for practical sheep-farmers.

While this is a matter that, strictly speaking, only interests the farmers of this county, it is one that will prove as practical elsewhere wherever there is sufficient interest in the matter to take it up. Were it practical it would be a very interesting matter with any kind of live stock, but the sheep is the only kind of farm stock that could be handled in an institute hall with any degree of practicability. But even with the sheep, it is a matter where the exchange of ideas of feeding can not be other than more or less instructive to any one interested in feeding live stock of any kind.

C. P. REYNOLDS.

For The Michigan Farmer.

### A PLEA FOR THE GRADES.

Mr. H. P. Miller recently, in answer to a question about breeding, said: "I am very strongly of the opinion that the best use to which a cross between the Merino and any of the Down breeds can be put is to make mutton." Now, Mr. Miller is a recognized authority on questions relating to sheep, and it may seem presumptuous for an ordinary farmer to dispute his statements; but the best posted of men sometimes ride hobbies so hard that they become blind to the real facts. Ten years ago nine-tenths of the sheep in our section were Merinos and Merino crosses on the native stock. Sheep were kept for wool. Wethers were not sold until three or four years of age, and ewes not until accident or age had made them useless for breeding purposes. After a time a change came. Wool went down, and the cross of the Down breeds, mostly Shropshires, on the Merino and native ewes, produced a lamb that matured early and brought good money. Then nearly every farmer who kept sheep as a part of mixed farming went into this line of breeding. Now, the question came: how shall we keep up our flocks? Shall we save our half-blood ewe lambs? And the authorities promptly said no. "We were told that it was not profitable to go beyond the first cross; that these half bloods were not good mothers; that they would not shear anything; that the feeders did not like the lambs coming from the second and third crosses; and, in fact, that there was only one proper way to keep up our flocks, and that was to put in a fine wool ram every few years and save the ewe lambs toward a new flock."

The majority of farmers accepted this teaching without question, and the ewe lambs, beauties many of them were, too, went to the butcher. The farmers fully intended to lay off and raise a new flock of fine wools when they started; but procrastination is so easy, and times were hard, and the lamb money was about the easiest money they made, so their ewes got old before they realized it. Then, too, the ewe lambs of one year's crop would not replace the old flock, and the wether lambs had to be kept longer or sold very cheap to feeders, and the farmers simply drifted along until now, with sheep bringing a fancy price, they have only a lot of toothless old "duffers" that ought to have gone to the block years ago. We are not describing one man's flock, but dozens and hundreds of flocks all over southern Michigan.

But there were some men who did not receive the traditions of the elders as gospel. These men picked out their best half-blood ewe lambs—those having the best mutton form with a good fleece—and when they were old enough to breed they bred them to a ram of the same Down breed. Strange to say the lambs from this second cross were in every way desirable. The mothers were intelligent, tame, and easy to handle; the lambs were strong, hardy, and good rustlers; were considerably heavier than the first cross, matured just as young, and if the feeders found any fault we never heard it. We know that the best prices paid by feeders in this section this fall were paid for high-grade

lambs. The mothers were just like their fine wool mothers before them—some were good shearers and some were not; but if one was looking for wool it was easy to cull out the poor shearers. Taking the price paid for each kind, and multiplying by the number of pounds, we found, too, that the wool from the grades was bringing as much as the wool from the fine wools.

Encouraged by results so far these men kept on, until to-day many of them have flocks that are hard to tell from full bloods of the various Down breeds; and, best of all, they are young sheep. These men had not the means in the beginning to buy a flock of full bloods, but they took what they had and bred persistently along one line and towards their ideal, and have made money in doing it. Our flock is now all grade Shrops, bred up in this way. They sheared this year an average of seven and a half pounds of unwashed wool, which sold at 20 cents, which we think was as much as was paid for any unwashed wool in this market. The lambs were weaned from the first to the middle of April, and although we lost more than usual, we had an increase of considerably over a hundred per cent. They were sold to a feeder Nov. 14th for 4½ cents. They were then about seven months old and had never been forced, but had been fed some oats commencing the first of October. They averaged 83½ pounds.

We are not sheep specialists, and these are not large figures; but they are profitable figures. If everything we do on the farm would show as clear a profit as the sheep account we would be satisfied. Neither are they unusual figures; dozens of these grade flocks through the country will make as good a showing and some a far better one. We submit these figures to back up our assertion that a better use can be made of grade ewe lambs than to send them to the butcher. One should know what he is breeding for. If wool is the primary object and mutton secondary, or if the lambs are to be kept until they are yearlings and clipped, perhaps some other line of breeding may be better. But if the chief object is mutton lambs that will mature early, fatten easily, and weigh well, then keep your grade ewe lambs. But stick to your text—don't use a Shrop. ram one year and a Lincoln next, and have a flock that is neither fish, flesh, nor good red herring. Make up your mind what suits you best, and then tie to it. Five years ago nearly every farmer in our immediate section believed as does Mr. Miller; to-day nearly every one is saving his ewe lambs and kicking himself to think of the ones he sent to the block, when his ewes were younger and his lambs better. Give the grades a chance; they are all right.

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### THE YOLK IN WOOL.

From Our Special English Correspondent.

We do not think it possible, but if ever it comes to pass that we get sheep growing fleeces without yolk, then we shall have a practically useless wool, if, indeed, we have any wool at all. Yolk is that oily substance which exudes from the glands of the skin, and so covers its entire surface that the skin to the eye will have a shining and glistening appearance wherever the wool is parted or opened on any part of the body. It also saturates the wool, so to speak, throughout its entire length, but in decreasing quantity as the body is receded from. It gives the wool a bright, lustrous appearance when present in sufficient quantities, and it is intimately associated with strength of fibre. When we shed the wool with the hands this oily substance adheres to them, and this will follow to some extent, though we but grasp the wool on the outer surface. Yolk also influences very largely and favorably the handling qualities of wool as regards softness, pliancy and elasticity, and these qualities are all present in a marked degree in first class wool, whatever the breed to which it belongs.

Sometimes, however, we find the amount of yolk to vary considerably in individuals of the same flock. At other times it varies materially with the season of the year in all the individuals of the flock. And in other instances the requisite amount of yolk is absent, not only in all the individuals of one flock, but in those of every flock kept, it may be, within a somewhat wide range of country. It should also be noticed that the individual animals which lack yolk in the wool are usually ill-doers in proportion to the extent

of the lack, and on the other hand where yolk is most abundant, that is to say, within a reasonable limit, the best conditions as to thrift and well-doing are found. And this will hold true of flocks as well as of individual animals.

This close, and it may also be said inseparable, relation between lack of yolk in the wool and lack of thrift in the animal naturally leads to the inquiry as to the cause of either or of both, and it begets the suspicion, which is doubtless well founded, that the cause which produces the one will also produce the other.

It is now generally conceded that lack of yolk in the wool arises from insufficient nutrition, or, to seek the cause a little nearer the foundation head, from insufficient food or sluggish digestion. And this is what we should expect, since the amount of yolk exuded from the skin is in proportion to the activity of the circulation, and the circulation is active in proportion as nutrition is active, and nutrition is active in proportion as digestion is good. If the wool is well nourished, which covers the parts of the body remotest from the centres of digestion, in this fact we have a guarantee that the other parts of the system not so far from the centres of digestion will also be well nourished.

But insufficient nutrition may arise from various causes. It may be brought about by organic disease, or by the derangement of the digestive organs, induced by taking unsuitable food or drink. It may also arise from undue exposure to temperature, too low or too high, or even exposed to excessive and continuous cold rains. And it may come, and is far more likely to arise from stunted supplies of food or drink, or it may also exist in the presence of superabundant supplies of both food and drink. In any case the immediate cause is impaired nutrition, for, paradoxical as it may seem, it is true, nevertheless, that sheep may pine away for lack of nutriment in the presence of superabundance of food of a certain kind or kinds.

When sheep have been fed on an unduly stimulating ration, the forcing of the powers of the system is followed by reaction. The digestive powers become cloyed, and impaired nutrition followed by undue dryness of the wool is the result. When food supplies are abundant winter and summer, and this lack of yolk manifests itself, we should look well to our management. It is faulty somewhere. But whatever is the seat of mischief it must be removed, or else the wool, when shorn, will be very defective and sell badly, too.

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All communications relating to the organization of new clubs should be addressed to A. B. Cook, Owosso, Mich.

### THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STATE ASSOCIATION.

It was a great meeting from every point of view. From the moment President Cook called the nearly two hundred delegates to order, at two o'clock Tuesday afternoon, till final adjournment the evening of the following day, the only thought was of loyalty and devotion to the farmers' clubs of Michigan. Every delegate manifested a just pride in being a part of this great organization which has done so much for the farmers of Michigan. All came to work in its interest and every delegate did his part beyond criticism. None but words of praise were heard from the board of directors who had so carefully planned the work of every session. The weeks of faithful and painstaking labor by President Cook and Secretary Pierce in the maturing and carrying out of these plans, were justly rewarded by the results secured.

To the older members of the Association this meeting was a most pleasant contrast to that of five years ago, when thirty-five loyal, able men, representing twenty of the thirty clubs then in existence in the State, met at Lansing, and in the same room laid the foundation for the present great organization. Enthusiastic though these founders were, yet of them may it be truly said, "They builded better than they knew." Since that date, February 4, 1894, five annual meetings have been held, and each in succession has shown a wonderful growth over its predecessor. Not once during these five years has the record shown an increase of less than 50 per cent, either in the number of clubs represented, the number of delegates present, the number of organized clubs in the State, or the total membership in the same.

The single fact that five years ago the whole number of farmers' clubs in Michigan was thirty-five, with a total membership of scarcely two thousand, and that to-day there are three hundred and fifty active clubs with a membership of more than thirty thousand, alone speaks volumes, both for the wisdom of the founders of the Association and the good work of those who have succeeded to the charge.

#### THE WORK IN DETAIL.

The session of Tuesday afternoon was devoted to the reports of officers and two-minute talks on the work of their respective local clubs by the delegates in attendance. The report of Association Secretary Pierce presented much valuable and interesting data regarding the work of the State Association during the past year, and some truly valuable suggestions regarding its future work and the conduct of the secretary's office. The following are the main points gleaned from this report:

New clubs organized, 54; whole number of clubs in State, 350; total membership, 30,000. As the movement grows the expense of maintaining the local clubs continually decreases, contrary to the prediction of many at the beginning. The average cost of the State Association to the local club members is less than one cent. County associations have been reported from Jackson, Shlawassee, Graiot, Monroe, Oakland and Livingston counties. Several other counties are soon to organize similar associations. Many letters of inquiry are being regularly received from other states, and the prospects are bright for the rapid spreading of the movement throughout the country. The great interest taken in the work of the Association in this and other states is indicated by the fact that over fourteen hundred letters of inquiry have been answered by the secretary during the past year. All legislative candidates were interviewed through the secretary's office before election regarding their position on the Kimmis County Salaries bill and the Atkinson Equal Taxation bill. As a result the

State now has a legislature elected pledged in support of these two measures.

Recommendations: That county associations be formed as rapidly as the number of local clubs in each county warrant. That an annual picnic be held by each local club. That the large clubs, covering a wide territory, divide into two or more and each become more thoroughly representative in its own locality.

The reports from the delegates occupied the remainder of this session, at the close of which President Cook announced the following committees:

Legislative Affairs—H. Gaunt, Highland; James E. Edgar, D. M. Garner, Mrs. J. D. Hazen, A. C. Bird.

National Affairs—L. D. Watkins, Manchester; Leroy N. Brown, Mrs. Frank Hitt, William Stewart, Geo. H. Lester.

General Resolutions—A. P. Green, Eaton Rapids; J. T. Daniells, Mrs. D. M. Garner, Geo. T. Mason, Myron Voorheis.

State Affairs—A. A. Wood, Saline; C. A. Jewell, F. M. Piggott, H. B. Thompson, B. F. Peckham.

Club Extension—A. Avery, Sandstone; H. M. Wells, J. W. Morrice.

#### EVENING SESSION.

The principal features of the evening session were President Cook's annual address and the able paper by Mrs. W. L. Cochrane, of the Dundee Club, on "Neglected Opportunities." The former will be published in full, and the latter in as complete a summary as the crowded condition of this department will warrant in the succeeding issues.

Among the many good things in the president's address the following played a prominent part in the after deliberations of the Association:

"Not until every club is represented at the State Association can we hope to exercise our maximum influence. To isolation may be traced almost every unfortunate condition of a farmer's life. Farmers' clubs overcome this. They have proved absolutely that organization is beneficial. Three great things are necessary to extend the influence of our organization: 1st. Local clubs must be more active in club extension. 2nd. County associations should be formed. 3rd. Perfect unity of action is necessary. The last can only be secured through The Michigan Farmer, hence the best talent in every club should be embodied in the corresponding secretary. Let us centralize our work on the County Salaries and Equal Taxation measures, but be ready for action on other matters of importance as they arise during the legislative session. Let us ask no special favors; then may we properly demand that special favors be not granted to others."

This address was ably discussed by David Gage of the Novi Club, followed by the delegate from the Cambridge Club. The central thought of Mr. Gage's remarks was the brighter day dawning for farmers through thorough organization.

The carefully prepared and thoughtful address of Mrs. Cochrane was the literary gem of the convention, and proved her a most worthy successor to Mrs. Johnstone and Mrs. Lockwood, who have represented the ladies on the program at the two preceding annual meetings. We promise our readers a rare treat in its after publication. The discussion of this paper brought forth many words of warm approval of the new woman's course at the Agricultural College, which found tangible expression later on in the unanimous adoption of a commendatory resolution presented by the Committee on State Affairs.

The Association is deeply indebted to the Agricultural College Students' Band for a liberal supply of most excellent music throughout this session.

#### WEDNESDAY FORENOON.

The entire session was given over to the consideration of the several State institutions, each being represented in a twenty-minute address by its respective head. Dr. James B. Angell of the University was the first speaker. He spoke of the generosity of the fathers of the Republic in providing for the education of their children, and gloried in the fact that Michigan has not fallen behind her sister states. He expressed his admiration of the foresight and judgment of the men who framed the constitution of 1835, which laid the foundation of our educational system, saying that they were an exceptional company, picked from the flower of New England, New York, Ohio and Virginia. "I doubt,"

said Dr. Angell, "if so able a body of men ever assembled under a single legislative roof as that which framed this early constitution."

The educational provisions of this constitution are said to have covered everything we have since done in this line, and even more, the common school, the University, Normal School, Agricultural College, School of Mines and charitable and educational institutions all being marked out therein.

Farmers furnish more than two-thirds of all the students in the University, and there are more than 1,900 Michigan young men and women now there. There is no place on earth where wealth and parentage count for so little as in a university. Brains and character command respect though clothes be ragged. He insisted that the institution is doing as much good to farmers and all other citizens as to its graduates, since it is turning out educated men and women to attend to their various needs and grace their homes.

Dr. Boone of the Normal stated that three-fourths of the students at that institution came from the farms, and that of the two hundred and fifty graduates sent out each year, more than half go back to the rural districts to teach. He said that the principal defects in the rural school system are due to the farmers themselves. These are the shortness of the term, frequent changes in teachers and the meager wages paid. He advocated the township high school system.

President Snyder said that the Agricultural College stands for the great industrial class who work with their hands, the day having passed when only men who intend to follow some profession are deemed worthy of an education. He explained that the institution is supported almost entirely by the general government, receiving therefrom \$90,000 per year. The only restriction fixed by congress is that none of this money can be used for buildings or repairs. For the past six years the State has been called upon for an average of only \$11,000 per year for the entire institution; or only four cents on a valuation of \$5,000. He outlined the various courses at the College and stated that forty per cent of the graduates return to the farms.

Superintendent Church explained the work of the School for the Blind, and a number of pupils gave an exhibition of their training at the institution. It was a scene never to be forgotten by those who were so fortunate as to be present. Mr. Church told the delegates that he should ask the legislature for an appropriation for a gymnasium for these unfortunates who are deprived from the enjoyment of the ordinary out-of-door sports so dear to children.

Superintendent St. John spoke briefly of the operations of the Industrial School for Boys. He told the delegates that a great majority of the boys become useful citizens. He quoted a remark of Gov. Bagley's: "Gentlemen, if this school saves only one boy a year and at a cost of \$5,000 apiece, it would be cheap if it happened to be your boy." He added, "Every one of the whole six hundred is somebody's boy, and every one is worth just as much as though he belonged to you."

The session closed with the question box on State institutions, conducted most admirably by J. T. Daniells, ex-president of the State Association. A score or more questions, all bearing upon the work of the various institutions, were answered to the satisfaction of all by the gentlemen who had previously addressed the Association. Thus passed one of the most profitable and interesting sessions ever held by the Association.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

With the sound of the gavel the active business of the Association began. It seemed to some that this portion of the work should have come earlier, but it should be remembered that hours of the most severe labor had been given to the preparation for this work by the committees in charge before it was ready for the convention proper. While the great number of delegates and visitors were enjoying the educational feast of the forenoon session a score or more of the delegates who had been selected by the president for the purpose were hard at work preparing for the business session. The work of the several committees was admirably done, and few changes were made by the convention in the resolutions as reported before adoption. The resolutions as adopted are printed in another column. As a rule they are well considered and conservative. We can but feel, how-

ever, that more careful deliberation would have changed the wording on one or two of them.

The discussion of the resolutions was dignified, rapid and strictly to the point. There seemed to be a determination on all sides to proceed along safe lines. The recommendation that the legislative work of the Association be confined largely to the Kimmis bill was unanimously concurred in. So thoroughly had the previous work of the local clubs been done regarding this measure that without debate every delegate responded with a hearty "Aye" when the vote was taken.

Immediately following came the annual election of officers. A number of sharp contests between the friends of rival candidates were settled most amicably with the following result:

President, L. D. Watkins, Manchester.

Vice-President, Mrs. D. M. Garner, Davisburg.

Secretary, A. B. Cook, Owosso.

Directors, C. S. Johnson, Vassar; Myron Crafts, Jackson.

#### THE JOINT MEETING.

Seventy-three o'clock Wednesday evening found every seat in representative hall, including the galleries, filled, and people were still pouring in. More than three hundred extra chairs were provided, but yet some had to stand. Although the exercises were excessively long, scarcely a person left the hall till the program was completed. The Agricultural College Students' Band discoursed sweet music while the audience assembled. Chords from the Industrial School and School for the Blind aided greatly in overcoming the tediousness of the long program, and the singing of Prof. Barnard Thomas was enthusiastically endorsed.

Hon. Geo. B. Horton, master of the State Grange, presided. After the invocation by Mrs. Mary A. Mayo, he introduced Hon. Thos. Mars, of Berrien, who, in behalf of the Grange, spoke a few words of kind welcome to the representatives of the Farmers' Clubs. The response was fittingly given by retiring President Cook of the State Association.

"The Fee System in County Offices," by A. C. Bird, reviewed rapidly the history of legislation along this line in other states, the evils of the fee system in our own State and the hopes of the friends of the salary system for immediate legislative action abolishing the one and instituting the other. This address will be published in a summarized form in these columns in the near future.

A. E. Palmer, of Kalkaska, presented a strong argument for "Farmers' Institutes and State Aid Thereof," in which he told his hearers of the vast amount of good the institutes are doing, especially in the newer portions of the State. He believes this "College Extension" work has earned for itself a warm place in the hearts of the agriculturists of the State, and thinks more liberal appropriations should be made by the legislature in the future for its maintenance and further development.

Owing to the absence of Mrs. E. L. Lockwood, vice-president of the State Association, Mrs. D. M. Garner talked upon the subject, "The Farmer as a Citizen." Her address was a most stirring one, replete with narratives of events in both the civil and the late wars. The tendency of the entire address was strongly toward enforced prohibition of the liquor traffic, and it was well received.

"Association, National, State and Local" was the subject treated most skillfully by Miss Jennie Buell, secretary of the State Grange. Miss Buell's familiarity with the workings of the Grange, national, state and local, gave to her a rich fund of experience from which to draw, and it would be difficult indeed to conceive a more comprehensive treatment of the subject in the ten minutes allotted than she gave.

State Superintendent of Institutes K. L. Butterfield, taking for his subject "Sword and Plowshare," drew lessons in organization, discipline and loyalty from the recent victories of our army and navy, and applied the same critically and aptly to the dealings of farmers with one another in their various organizations. It was a scholarly address and was given close attention.

The interest of the evening centered in the address which followed by Gov. Pingree. He facetiously told the audience of early experiences as a farm boy, and throughout his address maintained the position that the farmer comes the nearest to having his own way of any man on earth. He asked support in his efforts to secure equal



taxation, and announced his determination to urge the passage of inheritance and income tax measures by the coming legislature. He deplored the prospective action of this government in garrisoning the Philippines, and predicted that we would rue the day the "expansion" fever struck us.

Without doubt the happiest speech of all was that of ex-Gov. Luce, whose ten minutes seemed the briefest of the evening. He drew liberally from his rich fund of wisdom, wit and eloquence, and every word meant loyalty to the farmer and to the farm. It was one of those speeches of which a good report is absolutely impossible. The spirit of the "grand old man" breathed out in every word, and the spirit and the word in such are inseparable. And thus fittingly closed a red-letter day for farmers' organizations in Michigan.

#### DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

##### LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS—STATE.

"Believing in the principle of local control of local affairs as enunciated in a bill introduced in the last legislature, known as the Kimmis County Salaries bill,

"Resolved, That we reaffirm our declaration that all county officials be paid in full for their respective services by stated salaries fixed by the respective boards of supervisors, and that it be made a criminal offense for such officials to receive any fees or other perquisites in addition to their salaries. Further, that the fees collected in the county offices be readjusted on an equitable basis, and hereafter all such fees be turned into the county treasury and become part of the general fund.

"We indorse the principle of equal taxation as laid down in what is known as the Atkinson bill, and would also recommend the repeal of all special charters of corporations and the placing of their property under the general tax laws of the State."

##### STATE AFFAIRS.

The Committee on State Affairs submitted the following, which were adopted:

"We recommend the continuance of the present system of contract labor in the penal and reformatory institutions of the State as the fairest and most effective yet proposed or tested.

"We indorse the present law for the taxation of mortgages, but consider its provisions as falling short of accomplishing what the law was designed to do. We would recommend that the legislature be requested to make such changes as are necessary to make it thoroughly effective.

"We recommend that what is known as the Torrens system for the registration of transfer of real estate be adopted in this State as a sure means of putting an end to litigation, and establishing the titles to real estate on a sound and stable foundation.

"We recommend the passage of a law allowing appeals from justice courts only where the judgments are for a sum of \$150 or over. We believe that the adoption of such a measure would tend to cut down the work of our circuit courts very materially, and effect a great saving to taxpayers.

"We indorse the State Agricultural College, and recommend such aid as will tend to render it more efficient in its several departments. We would, therefore, call attention to the absolute necessity for the addition to its equipment of a woman's building, in order that this department may have such accommodations as are demanded by its importance, in order that the young women of the State may enjoy such privileges as are extended to young men."

##### NATIONAL AFFAIRS.

"We commend the action of the Secretary of Agriculture in placing our products in foreign markets, believing that this expansion of trade inures to the benefit of the farmer as well as the whole people.

"As the farmers, being the consumers, pay a large proportion of the revenue under the present protective system, we recommend such a tariff as will be to their benefit by stopping the unlawful importation of products, especially the classification, sorting and mixing of foreign wool.

"We recommend the establishment of postal savings banks.

"We believe that the time for general free rural mail delivery has come, and urge immediate action.

"We recommend that Congressman-elect Roberts, of Utah, be not allowed to take his seat in Congress.

"We condemn the action of the ex-

press companies in disloyally refusing to pay their part of the war burden, and indorse the opinion of our Supreme Court on this question.

"In view of the deplorable fact that our national income is not sufficient to meet the expenses of the government, we recommend that Congress provide the way for the enactment of an income tax, and duly enact the same.

##### GENERAL RESOLUTIONS.

"Resolved, That the canteen system as it existed during our late war was a reproach to our civilization, and that it is the duty of all good citizens to labor that this great iniquity shall be removed.

"Resolved, That we decidedly oppose the repeal of any portion of the law requiring the closing of saloons on legal holidays."

##### CLUB EXTENSION.

We recommend: 1. That each club, adjacent to unorganized territory, appoint a committee of one to assist in the formation of new clubs who shall furnish constitution and by-laws for the same.

2. That each county having a county organization appoint a committee of three from different parts of the county to see that clubs are organized in the unorganized territory.

3. That programs and reports of club meetings be furnished to local papers for publication, and efforts be made to interest the local press in club work and extension.

4. That there be no paid organizers in the interests of club extension.

5. That the Association Secretary furnish blank constitution and by-laws, and also a circular letter setting forth the benefits of organization, to all parties desiring them.

#### STATE PRESS COMMENT ON THE ASSOCIATION.

Detroit Free Press: The State Association of Farmers' Clubs, in annual session at Lansing this week, is doing a grand work for the farmers of Michigan.

Detroit Tribune: The Association believes in education, and has prepared a rare educational feast for Wednesday forenoon's session, when Dr. Angell, of the University; Pres. Snyder, of the Agricultural College, and Pres. Boone, of the Normal, will address the delegates.

Detroit News: It is by far the best meeting in the history of the Association.

Detroit Journal: The Farmers' Club movement is rapidly growing in popularity.

Lansing Journal: This organization has grown so rapidly that it will soon be necessary to reduce the representation of local clubs in the State Association.

State Republican: There is no doubt that the organization is in a most flourishing condition, and it has certainly had a phenomenal growth the past year. The meeting this year is fifty per cent. larger than ever before.

Lansing Tribune: The senate chamber is crowded to its capacity with Farmers' Club delegates, and it is very evident that the State Association will soon either have to stop growing or reduce the number of delegates now allowed each local club.

Carson City Gazette: The meeting was the largest, most enthusiastic and successful of any since its organization. The work of the Association is becoming more definite and better systematized, and the prospects for a long career for the clubs are bright indeed. Its officers and leaders are earnest, active and sincere in everything that pertains to the legitimate work of the organization, and their work is bringing results.

Pontiac Gazette: Many of Oakland County's representative farmers are attending the State Association of Farmers' Clubs at Lansing this week.

#### Christmas and New Year's Holiday Rates Via Grand Trunk Railway System.

The Grand Trunk Railway System will issue holiday excursion tickets at the rate of one and one-third fare for the round trip to and from all stations on the System west of the Detroit and St. Clair rivers, and will also sell to all stations of connecting lines. These rates will include Niagara Falls and Buffalo. Selling dates for Christmas are Dec. 23rd, 24th, 25th and 26th, 1898; for New Year's, Dec. 30th and 31st, 1898, and Jan. 1st and 2nd, 1899; all being valid to return up to and including January 3rd, 1899.

To Canadian points two rates are made: one single fare for the round journey, and one at the rate of one and one-third fare, according to the limit of the ticket.

For rates and information call at the City Ticket office, 84 Woodward Ave., or at the Grand Trunk depot, foot of Brush St., Detroit.

You will find complete Club List on page 480. Look for it.

## Veterinary Department.

CONDUCTED BY DR. W. C. FAIR.

Advice through this department is free to our subscribers. Each communication should state history and symptoms of the case fully, also name and address of the writer. The initials will only be given. When an answer is requested by mail it becomes private practice, and a fee of one dollar must accompany the letter.

Indigestion.—Ten-year-old cow, fresh last September, is very thin. W. H. K., Ellis, Mich.—Give twenty grains quinine three times a day until she gets well.

Bruise.—Abscess.—Horse was kicked on outside of hock joint. Swelled, then broke open; is not lame. C. J. M., Swartz Creek, Mich.—If wound is healed and swelling remains apply caustic balsam.

Loss of appetite.—A new milch cow, three years old, does not give her usual supply of milk. Has her second calf. Reader, Northfield, Mich.—Give one dram tincture nux vomica and half an ounce tincture gentian three times a day.

Paralysis of lips.—Mare eight years old has no control of her lips; they seem to be paralyzed. She seems to be hearty and feels well. She has been afflicted since the middle of July. W. S., Stanwood, Mich.—No. She will not get well.

Sitfast.—Six-year-old mare got kicked on right shoulder causing a swelling which I lanced; pus discharged and swelling went down, but left a hard bunch. J. D. L., Sanford, Mich.—The hard bunch should be removed with a knife. Medicine will not dissolve it.

Brittle hoofs.—My 10-year-old horse has poor front feet; hoofs are brittle; have some trouble to keep shoes on them for a reasonable length of time on account of pieces chipping off where the nails are driven. Have to keep him shod continually. Hind hoofs are good. Horse is always in good condition. I. J. H., Union, Mich.—Apply caustic balsam to coronets once a week. Stand animal on damp clay one hour a day. Repeat blisters if necessary.

Indigestion.—Heifer one year old bloats every week. Good appetite, but rather thin. J. A. H., Shultz, Mich.—Your heifer suffers from indigestion. Give her one ounce bicarbonate soda, one ounce ginger and half an ounce powdered charcoal twice a day in feed.

Cracked heels.—Mare has cracked heels and I have been using sulphur and fresh lard. Does not help them much. G. A. T., Leslie, Mich.—Clip hair off, apply poultices of boiled carrots or turnips and apply one ounce acetate lead and one ounce sulphate zinc in one quart of water twice a day.

Worms.—Pigs about ten weeks old, which have been fed on wheat middlings and bran in the proportion of two to one, have lost the use of their limbs and their bodies become stiff. Linseed oil seemed to help them some. Their rations are given in sweet skim-milk. Would the milk be less binding if allowed to sour before feeding? J. H. C., Fremont.—Give each pig fifteen grains powdered areca nut twice a day in feed. They should have more exercise and less feed. No, do not let the milk sour.

We are always glad to advertise an article that we know will save and make our patrons money. The "Little Giant Harness Riveter" advertised this week by Geo. B. Hall of Fredericktown, Ohio, will do both. It is a useful and money saving machine at a very little cost. You can save money by getting one for your own use, and you can make money selling them.

## YOUR BUTTER MONEY



and cow profit may be greatly increased if you only embrace the means within your easy reach. For instance, if you buy

A LITTLE GIANT SEPARATOR you will not only get more butter from the same cows, but it will be so much improved in quality as to command a much better price. We have just published an illustrated pamphlet which explains the details. We send it free to all interested parties.

P. M. SHARPLES, Branches: Omaha Neb., West Chester, Pa., Elgin, Ill., St. Paul, Minn., Dubuque, Ia., San Francisco, Cal.

\$9.50 BUYS A HIGH VICTOR SEWING MACHINE. Adapted to Light and Heavy Work. Reliable and Fully Finished; Guaranteed for 10 Years. Write for 32 Page Catalogue. Attachments Free. 30 DAYS FREE TRIAL. Address Dept. 638, VICTOR MFG. CO., 235-237 Fifth Ave., Chicago.

## Advice to Consumptives

There are three great remedies that every person with weak lungs, or with consumption itself, should understand.

These remedies will cure about every case in its first stages; and many of those more advanced. It is only the most advanced that are hopeless. Even these are wonderfully relieved and life itself greatly prolonged.

What are these remedies? Fresh air, proper food and

## Scott's Emulsion

of Cod-Liver Oil with Hypophosphites. Be afraid of draughts but not of fresh air. Eat nutritious food and drink plenty of milk. Do not forget that Scott's Emulsion is the oldest, the most thoroughly tested and the highest endorsed of all remedies for weak throats, weak lungs and consumption in all its stages.

50c. and \$1.00; all druggists. SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, New York.

THE MICHIGAN SEEDER will sow your clover evenly in any weather or wind; quantity per acre adjustable. Light weight, steel wheel, best made. Catalogue free, with prices.



## Don't Rent

ESTABLISH A HOME OF YOUR OWN.

You can do it. The finest agricultural land in the world lies West of the Mississippi River. Prices are low and farmers are prosperous. You can get valuable information by reading "THE CORN BELT," which is the handsomest farm paper ever published. It is beautifully illustrated and contains exact and strictly truthful information about the West. Issued monthly. Send 25c. for a year's subscription to "THE CORN BELT," 209 Adams St., Chicago, Ills.

FOR SALE. Excellent Farm, well improved, in Montcalm Co. Well wooded and watered. Near market. 4 cash, balance 3 per cent. C. R. STEARNS, Sheridan, Mich.

VIRGINIA FARMS for SALE—Good Land, good neighbors, schools and churches convenient. Mild, healthy climate, free from extremes of both heat and cold. Low prices, easy terms. Write for free catalog. R. B. CHAFFIN & Co., (Inc.) Richmond, Va.

VA. FARMS \$3 per acre and upwards. Easy payments. Mild Climate. Catalogue free. GEO. E. CRAWFORD & CO., Richmond, Va.

#### TWO FARMS FOR SALE.

One 200 acres in Bennington Township, 5 1/2 miles south of Owosso, 1 1/2 miles from Bennington station. Ten acres timber. Carry \$4,000 insurance on buildings. Price, \$9,000. One 47 acres in Orleans Township, 4 1/2 miles from Belding, Mich. Good house, barn, etc. Price, \$600. Write K. R. SMITH, Ionia, Mich.

CHEAP IOWA FARMS for sale in Madison county. I have cheap and desirable farms; prices range from \$20 to \$50 per acre. Come and see them or send for lists. Address A. W. CRAWFORD, Winterset, Iowa.

CHEAP FARMS. DO YOU WANT A HOME? We will sell you one with a small payment down, the balance on long time. A little each year. Come and see us or write THE CROSWELL COMPANY, Croswell, Sanilac Co., Mich.

\$5 EACH FOR FIRST-CLASS SCOTCH COLLIE PUPS from registered stock. Pedigrees furnished. R. HASSELBING, Flint, Mich.

MACHINE \$10 Write at once for Catalog THE BOWEN CABLE STAY FENCE CO., Norwalk, Ohio.

WANTED RELIABLE MEN in every locality, local or traveling, to introduce a new discovery and keep our show cards tacked up on trees, fences and bridges throughout town and country; steady employment; commission or salary; \$65.00 PER MONTH AND EXPENSES not to exceed \$2.50 per day; money deposited in any bank at start if desired. Write for particulars. The Globe Medical Electric Co., Buffalo, N. Y.



## Horticultural.

### STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

(Concluded from last week.)

The Society began its Wednesday afternoon session with a paper from Prof. S. A. Beach, of the New York Experiment Station at Geneva, on "Thinning Fruit." The Professor presented the results of a number of experiments at that station in the thinning of several kinds of fruit, and drew the conclusion that the thinning process, if generally followed, would relieve both the over-burdened trees and the over-burdened market. The importance of this subject is not realized by the average fruit-grower, and it will require years of experience and observation to convince him of its absolute necessity if fruit-growing is to continue profitable.

At the evening session F. M. Hurlbut, of Detroit, secretary of the Parks and Boulevard Commission, presented a paper on "Object Lessons of City Parks;" and O. C. Simonds, superintendent of the Chicago parks, followed with one on "Some unappreciated but attractive things found in the country."

Prof. W. W. Tracy, of Detroit, spoke upon the influence of landscapes upon the development of child life, which was quite interesting. Prof. Frederick G. Novy closed the evening session with a paper on "Preserving Fruits." The papers presented, while good in their way, did not prove interesting to a number of those present, owing to the nature of the subjects and the technical manner in which they were treated.

Thursday morning President-elect C. J. Monroe opened the session by outlining what he thought should be the principal features of a law which the next legislature should pass for the benefit of fruit-growers. These features are as follows:

(1) The explicit prohibition of the sale and shipment of all sorts of diseased, wormy, scabby and knarly fruit or that having other defects or blemishes readily seen.

(2) The frequent destruction throughout the growing season of all fallen fruit.

(3) The disinfection of all packages before using a second time.

(4) The name and residence of the shipper and the place where the fruit is grown plainly marked upon the package.

(5) Suitable penalties for violation of the provisions of the bill.

(6) The grower or seller should be made liable to the purchaser for at least twice the price of the fruit and costs of suit for any fraud or deceit in packing or putting diseased or imperfect fruit into a package where it cannot readily be detected.

(7) The appointment of an inspector specially charged with the execution of the law. Also the requirement that the yellows commission and nursery inspector report to the fruit inspector any infractions of the law coming to their notice.

The provisions named would undoubtedly subject such a bill to very strong opposition from many fruit-growers; but if it was possible to enact and enforce such a law, it would result in giving Michigan fruit a reputation in every market in the country, and in the end prove of immense benefit to the fruit-growers of the State. In fact, it would compel other states to adopt like measures or their fruit-growers would be driven out of market by the products of this State.

Senator R. D. Graham followed with a talk on "The Peach Outlook." He said peaches in Michigan are a surer crop than in any other fruit-growing state. It is the surest crop we grow. Partial failures occur once in a while, but it is seldom that there is a total failure. Michigan peaches are better under the same conditions than those of any other state. Our central location is better. There are better shipping facilities. Another advantage which Michigan enjoys is the fact that the time of ripening is in September, when the demand is at its best. The eastern states do not raise half enough peaches to supply their own markets, and merchants from Boston and other points are already coming to Michigan for their fruit. By keeping the fruit of the best quality Michigan will soon be able to build up an exclusive market. The time has come when we must dispose of our poor fruit in other ways

than by putting it in the middle of the baskets. The profits in peaches are not so large as they used to be and no one should plant peach trees indiscriminately.

Roland Morrill followed with an address on "The Future of Michigan Apples." He spoke of the adaptability of the soil of the State to the production of the apple, pointed out its possibilities owing to the value of this fruit, and urged that new orchards be planted instead of allowing the number to decrease. The business is sure to improve, and those who plant apple orchards are sure of their reward.

J. B. Pollock followed with a paper on "The Ripening of Fruits," which closed the morning session.

In the afternoon Mr. Morrill spoke on "Pruning," giving a very interesting and instructive talk. The subject of forestry in Michigan was taken up for discussion, in the course of which Regent Dean referred to what the University could do in promoting the interests of forestry in the State. He said that the University had already appointed a committee consisting of Prof. Spalding, Regent Lawton and Regent Cook, to confer with a similar committee from the Horticultural Society with a view to presenting the subject before the legislature. In addition to this, instruction in the importance and necessity of forestry is being given to 3,000 young men and women, and they are being sent out to disseminate this knowledge.

Others who spoke on the subject were C. A. Garfield, who told what the Agricultural College is doing in the movement, under the leadership of Profs. Beal and Kedzie. He thought forestry was the greatest agricultural movement before the people to-day, and that a joint committee of the Horticultural Society, the Agricultural Society and the University would meet at Lansing in January to formulate a bill which will be presented to the legislature, and which he hoped to see become a law. Mrs. Martha E. Root endorsed the movement on behalf of the women's clubs of the State; Prof. E. A. Strong, of the Ypsilanti Normal School, Supt. Bower, of the State Fish Commission, and Judge S. B. Daboll, sent papers endorsing the movement, and F. E. Skeels read one making suggestions as to how abandoned lands should be handled in the interests of forestry. He thought a state commission was necessary to take care of this interest, with power to employ competent men to take care of the lands.

At the evening session Prof. Frear, of the University, read a paper on "Beet Sugar and the Sugar Beet." He gave an outline of the conditions most favorable to the growth of the beet, and described the process necessary to extract the sugar.

A number of resolutions were adopted, the most important of which urged that the Michigan congressional delegation be instructed to do all in their power to secure an appropriation for the study of plant pathology, particularly the disease called "little peaches," which threatens the farmers so seriously.

The committee appointed to award premiums on the fruits and flowers entered for competition, recommended the following premiums: For the best grown and most desirable collection of apples, E. C. Phillips, of Grand Rapids, first; for the best display of carnations, first, Henry Smith, of Grand Rapids, second, Boehringer Bros., of Bay City; for the best display of cut roses, first, Henry Smith, of Grand Rapids; for the best display of chrysanthemums and cut flowers, first, Henry Smith, second, Boehringer Bros.; for the best display of ornamental plants, first, James W. Goodhen, of Ann Arbor, second, Cousins & Hall, of Ann Arbor. First premiums were \$2, and second \$1.

The next annual meeting of the Society will be held in Detroit, and the various Ontario associations have been invited to meet with it at that time.

For The Michigan Farmer.

#### APPLES THIS YEAR.

More than one state has been benefited by the apple crop this year. The high prices have brought ample profits to those who had an abundance of good apples on hand to sell. The prices paid the farmers this year for good apples have averaged \$2 a barrel, and in some regions the prices have run from \$2 to \$3.25 per barrel for very choice grades. It does not take long to figure out a good profit to the fruit grower when apples command such prices as these.

Speculators in apples are now relieving farmers of much trouble and bother in disposing of their crop. Agents make cash offerings for the fruit on the trees, and take all the care and worry of marketing them. If such offers are good it pays better than to attempt to handle the crop in regions where large markets are difficult of access. Several farmers in western New York sold their entire crop this season to big dealers at prices ranging from \$2 to \$3 per barrel, picked and delivered at the nearest railroad station. This is the most satisfactory method of selling the apples, for then one can calculate to the dollar how much he is going to make from his crop. On the other hand there is always the uncertainty of some mishap when the apples are picked and shipped away to be sold on commission. A thousand and one things may interfere to cut down the profits. In my experience I have found that the farmers who refuse reasonable offers for their fruit, in the hopes of securing better prices by shipping them personally to market, do not average as much profit as the man who tries to sell the fruit on the trees or delivered at the railroad station. Of course there are such things as bogus agents who scour the country trying to get apples and other market produce at ridiculously low prices. It goes without saying that a fruit grower has got to have some business shrewdness in driving a bargain, and moreover he must keep in pretty close touch with the market conditions and the general supply.

I notice one good result of this movement to purchase the apples direct from the farms. The agents insist upon proper sorting and packing. They usually give pretty plain directions how this shall be done, otherwise the grower will not get the balance of his money. As there is no object for the farmer to mix good and poor varieties in one barrel, there is as a rule pretty conscientious efforts to live up to the agreements. Probably this will in time get all of us in the habit of sorting and packing apples properly that we will do it when we prepare them for market to be sold on commission.

New York. S. W. CHAMBERS.

For The Michigan Farmer.

#### WINTER HEELED-IN TREES.

It never pays to wait until spring to purchase peach and other fruit trees. One never gets them in time to plant early enough to give them a good start. Consequently they should be purchased in the fall and heeled in for the winter so they may be planted as early as possible in the spring. One then becomes master of his own garden, and does not have to wait the pleasure of some over-rushed nurseryman. So many do leave the work of buying the trees until spring that most nurserymen are rushed with their orders, and some of their customers must be left in the general hurry.

The work of wintering these trees is not difficult, but sometimes we hear of a person abandoning the practice on account of failure to carry the trees along successfully. When received the trees should be examined carefully to see if their roots are dry. If so they should be watered thoroughly before they are heeled in. As a rule it pays to heel the trees in where they will not be exposed to the sun, nor on the other hand to the direct exposure of the north and west winds. The object is to obtain for them as even a temperature as possible. It is the alternate thawing and freezing that does the most harm to the young trees. If they are cut back about one-third and heeled in properly they will not suffer from the coldest weather.

In heeling them in it is the part of wisdom to cover up their roots thoroughly, and also about one-half of their trunks. If the varieties of peach trees are tender, and in a colder climate than they have been raised in, it will pay to give further protection with straw or litter so that every part of the trees shall have some cover. In milder climates this is not necessary.

Then let the ground freeze solid, and if no sun reaches the spot it will not thaw until spring. If there is any danger of this, cover the surface with a foot of straw. This mulch will keep

the frost from coming out, and the trees will not be injured. A steady, moderate freezing weather will not hurt any of our fruit trees. But alternate cold and warm weather may do an incalculable amount of damage.

Massachusetts.

S. W. C.

Our Paris correspondent says: Nantes is rapidly becoming head center for the horticultural products of France. Thrice a week a steamer leaves Nantes for New Haven, with all the finer vegetables of the season, and those out of season raised under glass. All is for Covent Garden market. Her celebrated pears, equal to a total of fifty-five millions, change hands and realize two and a half millions of francs. The vegetables exported in a year realize three millions of francs; the output of farmers is always important, and the same remark applies to the many nurseries, the climate being so mild and equable.



Many a husband imagines that his wife is happy, healthy and strong, when she is really enduring in silence almost unbearable tortures. She meets him at the door on his return from work or business with a

smile and a kiss. To be sure, she looks a little white and pallid, but she is vivacious and cheerful in his presence, and he does not realize that anything is wrong. If he had but come home during the middle of the day, he would have found, instead of the cheerful wife, a weak, sickly, nervous invalid, with headache, pains in the back, "stitches" in the side, burning and dragging down sensations and utter despondency and melancholy.

In almost every case of this kind the woman is really suffering from weakness and disease of the distinctly feminine organism. Frequently she does not realize her own condition. If she does, she shrinks from undergoing the "examinations" and "local treatments" insisted upon by the average physician. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is the medicine needed by women who suffer in this way. It acts directly on the sensitive organs concerned and makes them strong, healthy and vigorous. It allays inflammation, heals ulceration, soothes pain and tones and builds up the shattered nerves. It transforms weak, sickly, nervous, despondent invalids into happy, healthy wives and competent mothers. It fits for wifehood and motherhood. It makes "examinations" unnecessary. Honest dealers do not suggest substitutes for a little added profit to be realized thereon.

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## The Dairy.

Conducted by J. H. Brown. Every reader of The Michigan Farmer who is interested in dairy matters, is earnestly invited to frequently contribute to this department. Send all dairy correspondence to Battle Creek, Mich.

For The Michigan Farmer.

### THE BEST COW I EVER OWNED.

Being a subscriber, I send her record for six months from May 1st to November 1st, 1898. I purchased her the last day of April, 1898. She had a calf by her side three weeks old. I kept the calf three weeks, giving it about half the milk she gave.

In May we made 29½ lbs.; June, 36 lbs.; July, 35½ lbs.; August, 43¾ lbs. During these months we had no cellar, and the milk was kept in the room in a milk safe near the cook stove, as we were building, and had no other room for it.

About September 1st our cellar was completed and the milk kept therein. In September we made 46 lbs.; October, 55½ lbs., making a total of 246 pounds in six months.

We set our milk in shallow pans, no water or ice being used. All the pasture she had until after harvest was gotten while tied to a rope in the doorway, orchard, and along the road. All the grain fed was a couple quarts of bran night and morning.

After flies got thick she was stabled daytimes, with a little sowed corn to eat, and turned in the pasture nights. She is a Jersey-Holstein grade, six years old. When I purchased her she had been poorly wintered, with no grain, and was so poor she could hardly get up alone. She has gained ever since I have had her.

Shiawassee Co., Mich. J. D. G.  
(She is a good cow, but let us make a suggestion: Change to the deep cold setting plan, instead of using the shallow pan. Evidently you do not get all her butter fat. She is furnishing you more butter than you are securing by the shallow pan process. Try a change and see.)

Then have your cow tested by the Babcock test occasionally. Keep a record of her milk flow for a year, also amount of butter made, and report again in due time. Write often.—Ed.)

### FEEDING DAIRY STOCK.

Notwithstanding what the doctors say of the chemical components of different substances, practically, there is much difference between hay and hay, and between turnip and a turnip, and we must proceed carefully until we know our feed and animal. Now, suppose our cow comes in in April or May; she should not be immediately crowded to her capacity, for in the state of her system soon after calving, there is much danger, if over-fed, of producing fever.

After a time we can take her in hand and see what she will do. Commence her high feed on roots—parsnips, if you please—which have been left in the ground through the winter for that purpose; if these are not at hand, give her mangolds; these should always be kept for late spring feeding. Their saccharine matter is thus condensed, and the roots made richer than in the fall. Round turnips are excellent feed, and, in fact, all our root crops are indispensable (without ensilage) for feeding dairy stock. It is surprising to me that so many farmers wholly neglect the cultivation of roots, for there is no feed, unless it is corn ensilage, that compares with them in cheapness, or is, all things considered, so good. Roots promote the health of the cattle, increase the flow of milk, the roundness of muscle, and fat.

In England and Holland the feeding of roots is universal; and it would be impossible for their dairy and stock farmers to get on without them. This can be seen at a glance, by referring to the given formula—100 pounds of hay is equivalent to 200 pounds of potatoes. Now an acre of land that will produce 6000 pounds of hay will produce 18,000 pounds of potatoes; that is, one acre in potatoes will keep as much stock as three acres of hay. With mangolds or turnips, the difference is much greater. The object with the dairy cow is to make her produce as much milk as possible, or to bring her to her highest natural flow.

In the management of a dairy cow, tempt her to take as much food as her system will assimilate. To us, the cow is a machine—a peculiar and delicate one, to be sure, but yet a machine—to manufacture hay, grain, roots and meal into milk. She should, if possi-

ble, be freely and largely fed, but judiciously, and with great care, lest the machine be injured. Some farmers think that a poor cow, one low in flesh, gives more milk than if she were in high condition. This is wrong. Such animals do and must give poor milk, and less in quantity, for the sinking system is to be maintained and it must take the best of the food, and it cannot go to milk. In most localities the dairy cow should come in in April or May; she will then come to her full flow of milk on the luxuriant grass of May and June.

It is to be regretted that our farmers feed so little linseed meal to their cows, for it is the best feed to keep up the system and produce milk. This meal will not produce an extra quantity of butter, and is not especially desirable in the butter dairy; but for milk, and to sustain the system, it is the best of food. Potatoes are a special food for the butter cow, increasing both the quality and quantity. The largest yield of butter is produced when azotized and non-azotized materials are in equal proportions in the food. Turnips increase the flow of milk, but not the quantity of butter. The same is true of cabbage. Cabbage is a most valuable feed for cows; and when we think of the enormous yield in tons that can be obtained on an acre, it is surprising that so few are raised for this purpose.

Some farmers object to cabbage and turnips as food for dairy cows, because the milk and butter becomes flavored with these vegetables. This is true to a certain extent, but the difficulty can be completely avoided by feeding them immediately after milking.

Soiling is a matter of great importance to dairymen, especially in the vicinity of cities where milk is sent to market. Soiling is feeding green fodder, as grass, young corn, clover, etc., in the stable, rather than turn the cows to pasture, and has some advantages. First, it enables the dairyman to keep a greater number of cows on a given number of acres of land.

By the use of the artificial grasses, or green corn, three acres will support more than seven in good pasture. This method gives more milk, for the animals are quieter, and receive less annoyance from flies and cowboys. Soiling also serves to increase largely the farmer's manure bank. In Holland and Flanders this method is universally adopted. In those countries no cows are seen in the fields, there are no fences, and the land is entirely given up to cultivation.

The dairy room and the manner of making butter and cheese are subjects of the greatest importance, as all our labor and feed may be lost by mismanagement here. The milk room should be kept well ventilated, and constantly sweet and clean by the use of pure water; and especially if milk is spilled, it should be washed up immediately with fresh water. No matter how small the quantity, if allowed to soak into the floor and sour, it cannot be easily removed, and it is sufficient to taint the air and the milk in the room, though it may not be perceptible to the senses.

D. W. THOMAS.

### BUILDING UP A DAIRY HERD.

My experience in improving the dairy herd on the large dairy farm where the greater part of life was spent, may have some lessons for some of your readers. About twenty years ago my brother and myself bought the farm in partnership, and we worked the farm together until a few years ago. When we came in possession of our farm it was stocked with native or "scrub" cattle, and the owner had for years used a scrub bull; in fact he had given the matter of improving his cows no attention whatever. Every year he had bought a cheap bull, then at the end of the season sold him for beef. The result of several years of this kind of breeding was the poorest lot of dairy cows that I ever knew. I was a young man then, and knew but little about the business of dairying, but my brother and I bought the farm and stock, and tried to make a living and pay the mortgage from the income of the cows.

We soon learned something about the difference in cows. We found farmers who were making from two to three hundred pounds of butter per year, and from our cows we could make only one hundred pounds and give them the same care and feed as the farmer who made two hundred pounds. We began to consider the matter of replacing our native cattle

with thoroughbred cattle, and the choice of breed best adapted to our purpose. At that time the farmers in my locality were just beginning to ship milk to New York city and the price of milk then in the winter was four cents per quart. As we had ensilage to feed our cows, we decided we could make more money selling milk in the winter than making butter in the summer, and that the breed best adapted to our purpose was the Holsteins.

We could not afford to sell our native cows and buy thoroughbreds, as the difference in the price was too great for us to pay. We finally obtained a few grade Holstein cows, and paid a neighbor for the service of a thoroughbred Holstein bull. In this way we got some fine calves. Our neighbors who were shipping milk were buying cows, but as the cows we wanted cost too much, we decided to raise them. We soon bought a thoroughbred bull, and each year kept all the heifer calves from the best cows, feeding them on new milk for two or three weeks, then sometimes buying skim-milk of our neighbors who made butter, and later supplementing the milk with hay tea and linseed meal until they were old enough to live and grow on hay and grass.

Our experience has been that it is more profitable to raise our cows, so we could make the selections in breeding we wished to, even if it cost us more to raise the calves than the farmer who makes butter and has the skim-milk for them. In keeping a dairy of forty cows, I would raise eight or ten heifer calves from my best cows every year, and I want the cows served with bull from a cow also noted for her good qualities. It affords one greater pleasure to care for a fine herd of thoroughbred cows, and if they have been bred for the purpose for which you want them, by a process of selection extending through many years, it is evident they will be more profitable.

Our cows in the winter were fed hay in the morning, grain at noon, and silage at night after milking. The grain ration we liked best is composed of two parts wheat bran and one part cottonseed meal, but we sometimes fed hominy and gluten, if we could reduce the cost of our milk by doing so. The stable is made very warm by double-boarding it with building paper between the boards. The outer boards were matched, planed and painted. One can sit and milk in the stable in the coldest day and not be uncomfortable. My brother is now running the dairy farm, and I am living on my small farm in the village, where I keep, usually, one or two cows, to provide milk and butter for family use.

The cow which seems to be the best adapted to my purpose now is the Jersey. The well-bred Jersey is a tender cow, but I believe there is no other cow that will make so much butter fat from the same food, if her surroundings are right for her. My Jersey cow is paying me well this winter. I have made a very warm place for her by double-boarding a box stall in the barn. The warmth and sunlight from a large window make her very comfortable. I turn her loose in the stall during the day, but nights tie her to a manger on one side, where there is a floor sloping to a gutter. She will not be turned out of doors this winter. From my experience in dairying, I believe this is the right way to get the most milk from the food consumed.

Delaware Co., N. Y. W. H. JENKINS.  
(Our experience has been somewhat similar to the above. We have found it far better to raise our own cows. But we also find it pays to secure a good pure-bred bull as possible to use in the herd.)

When one is fairly started in the

business of saving the heifer calves from those cows that are most profitable it does not take long to accumulate a herd of good dairy cows of one's own raising. The work of weeding out and breeding up makes a practice that is of great value to the dairyman who takes pains and keeps his eyes open.—Ed.)

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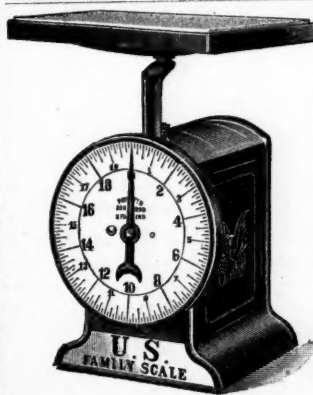
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DETROIT, SATURDAY, DEC. 24, 1898.

This paper is entered at the Detroit Postoffice as second class matter.

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If the date on your name label is Jan '99, or if there is no date, your subscription expires with the next copy. As we always stop sending The Michigan Farmer at end of time ordered, that will be the last number which you will receive under your old subscription, and to avoid missing any numbers your renewal should be sent at once. In renewing please send name as it now is on the yellow label. Complete club list will be found on page 480, containing the very best offers ever made.

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### A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL.

The holiday season is again with us, and we hope every reader of The Farmer, and each household into which it enters, will have nothing to prevent the thorough enjoyment of its pleasures, and the season of good feeling which it brings.

Looking back to the Christmas of one year ago, and what great changes have taken place in the hopes and aspirations of the nation. How thankful must every true American feel when he ponders over the occurrences of the past year, and how his heart must swell with pride over its mighty achievements. What great favor has been shown to us as a nation. How the people of the various states have been drawn together by the events of the past year, and what a glorious page has been written in the history of the Republic. What promise these grand achievements hold out for its future welfare and progress. It matters not whether one is a native of Maine or Texas, Virginia or Oregon, and cherishes the warmest feeling of loyalty for his state, his principal glory to-day is that he is an American citizen. Before that thought state lines become dim, and sectional prejudices disappear like mist before the morning sun. It is the same flag everywhere, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the Great Lakes to the Gulf, and never has it floated over a more united and prosperous people than on this memorable Christmas of 1898. Have we not, therefore, abundant cause for devout thankfulness, and the right to wish one a heartfelt "Merry Christmas."

### IS THE IDLE RICH MAN A PUBLIC MENACE?

A Mr. Samuel Posner, in an address before the Phoenix Club at Baltimore, Md., took the ground that an idle rich man is a public menace, and here are the reasons he gave for holding that opinion:

"Good citizenship demands activity, thrift and integrity. Withdrawals from active business affect a city's prosperity. Every dollar of capital withdrawn from active business hurts the community—hurts it in many ways. The example is the first and foremost injury. It dampens ambition and belittles enterprise. It retards progress, stifles prosperity and puts a premium on idleness. Every man who is physically and mentally sound and is idle shirks his duty to his fellow-men, injures his busy neighbor and ignores his public responsibilities. No able-bodied man should so far forget his importance to his home as to become a drone in his household. He should never forget for an instant that he is a part, and an important part, of the mighty host that is being moved forward and upward in the great struggle for the commercial advancement of his locality, his town, his state and his country. We must look forward first to the welfare of our own immediate surroundings, then to that of our friends, then our neighbors, then for our city, state and nation. Then, and not till then, are we fulfilling our public responsibilities and our public duties as citizens."

Mr. Posner looks at this question from a totally different standpoint than others who have discussed it with reference to its effects upon the industrial interests of the masses. In fact, many of them have declared that it would be good policy for the law to require men who have gained a certain amount of wealth, to withdraw from all business pursuits, so as to allow those less fortunate greater opportunities and less competition from their more fortunate competitors. These men have held that the building up of immense fortunes is a menace to the public welfare, and therefore that the government has a right to put a stop to the further accumulation of wealth so soon as the individual secures an amount sufficient to meet the requirements of himself and those dependent upon him. That is the other side of the subject from the one adopted by Mr. Posner.

In considering both sides of this question, it seems to us that Mr. Posner's assertions are entirely too broad and general to be generally accepted. In many instances the idle rich man is one who, by years of close attention to business and great self-denial, has accumulated what he deems sufficient wealth for his needs. He has known nothing but work. To him life represented nothing but a continued struggle to acquire money until he withdrew from its pursuit. He has not availed himself of the opportunities afforded for recreation and observation. His intense application to business has prevented him from knowing much of the outside world or its people. He concludes to work less and mingle more with the people; to enjoy the leisure and repose which a life of toil has secured for him. How is such a man a menace to the public welfare? Is it not the goal toward which every ambitious young man is striving? And has not all advice to young men had the object in view of teaching them the necessity of hard work and self-denial in early life, that in later years they might be released from the necessity of laboring? Yet, Mr. Posner apparently recognizes no distinction between the rich loafer and the man who, by strenuous exertion and perseverance, has raised himself to a position where he need no longer work to secure the means of existence.

There is another point to be considered in this connection. The rich man may withdraw himself personally from business enterprises, but his capital remains. It works for him, and in doing so is an efficient aid to enterprise, and a boon to those who have the ability to use it successfully. He cannot withdraw it without he is content to live upon the principal, and see it dwindle

from day to day. We never knew any rich men who were willing to do this.

It is all right to urge the necessity of work upon every one. Work is at once man's curse and his greatest opportunity. To the man who dreads it, and goes to his daily task with slow and lagging steps, work will be looked upon as a curse. To him who goes to his tasks joyfully, with his mind interested in performing them in the best possible manner, work is his greatest opportunity. But when the time for leisure comes, as it does to all, why should he prove a public menace? In our view his success, and the results it has given him, are a promise and an inspiration for the young men who are pushing their way upward in the battle of life. We would like to see more of such men in every community.

### BUSINESS OF THE CANALS.

The great canals of the world and the growth of the business passing through them are discussed in a series of tables just published by the Treasury Bureau of Statistics in its latest issue of the summary of commerce and finance. The figures given show the great importance of the American canal system to the producing interests as well as to the internal and foreign commerce of the country. In the summary referred to the business of the Suez canal, the Kaiser Wilhelm canal, the St. Mary's Falls, the Welland and New York canals, and incidentally the commerce passing through the Detroit River are given in detail for a term of years and thus presents statistical data convenient for those desiring to study the question of ship canals connecting great bodies of water.

The Suez canal shows a net tonnage of 6,576 tons in 1869, its first year, 436,609 in 1870, over 1,000,000 in 1872, more than 2,000,000 in 1875 and a steady increase until 1891, when the figures reached 8,698,777, since which time there has been comparatively little change, the figures for 1897 being slightly below those of 1896, but 33 per cent in excess of those of 1887, and more than three times those of 1877.

The Kaiser Wilhelm canal, which has been in operation but three years, shows an increase of 50 per cent in that period in the tonnage passing through it, that of the first year after its opening being 1,505,983 and that for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1898, 2,469,795.

The St. Mary's Falls canal, connecting Lake Superior with the lower lakes, shows a more rapid gain than the Suez. The freight tonnage passing through St. Mary's Falls canal in 1881 is given at 1,567,741, reaching more than 3,000,000 tons in 1885, more than 5,000,000 in 1887, more than 7,000,000 in 1889, more than 9,000,000 in 1890, more than 11,000,000 in 1892, more than 13,000,000 in 1894 and more than 18,000,000 in 1897. Incidentally the freight tonnage passing through the Detroit River, which connects Lakes Superior, Michigan and Huron with Erie and Ontario, is shown to have increased from 9,009,000 tons in 1873 to 23,900,520 in 1896, an increase in that time of 200 per cent, while the increase in the registered tonnage through St. Mary's Falls canal alone in that time is from 204,446 to 17,619,933.

The Welland canal tables show that the quantity of freight passed through that canal in 1880 was 819,934 tons, and in 1896, 1,279,987, though comparing 1896 with 1872, 1873 and 1874, no increase is found, the figures of 1872 being 1,333,104 and those of 1873, 1,506,484, while the tons passed from United States ports to United States ports through the Welland canal fell from 748,557 in 1874 to 653,213 in 1896.

The New York canal tables show a steady decrease since 1880 in the tons

of merchandise carried to tide water. The number of tons of freight carried to tide water on the New York canals in 1880 was 4,067,402, in 1890, 3,024,765 and in 1897, 1,878,216, while all other canals mentioned as above indicated show large gains in business meantime.

The reduction of freight rates, especially on the Great Lakes and by rail in competition with the lakes and their canals is also shown by a series of tables. These show a material reduction in freight rates between Chicago and New York, whether carried by lake and rail, lake and canals or by all rail, though the reduction where carried by the all-water route of lake and canals is greater than in cases where a part or all of the transportation is by rail. The average rates per bushel for wheat from Chicago to New York by lake and canal were in 1877, 11.24c per bushel; in 1887, 8.5c, and in 1897, 4.25c. In the combination of lake and rail freights the rates fell from 15.8c per bushel in 1877 to 12c in 1887 and 7.37c in 1897, while the all-rail freights fell from 20.3c per bushel in 1877 to 15.74c in 1887 and 12.32c in 1897.

### A UNITED COUNTRY.

The visit of President McKinley, and several members of his cabinet, to the Atlanta Exposition, and afterwards to a number of southern cities, mark a distinct era in the relations of the various states and sections to each other. The change in sentiment undoubtedly has been the growth of years, but it required such an emergency as the war with Spain to give emphasis and expression to this change, and show how distinctly national the sentiment of the country has become. State lines no longer mark the divergence of interests and sentiment, and while citizens may take pride in the achievements and progress of their states, sections, or cities, there is a distinctly national feeling that pervades every community, and proclaims the fact that the country to-day is more united than at any time since the declaration of independence.

The address of President McKinley at Atlanta is worthy of record for its expressions of praise and admiration of the heroic men who gave the nation victory in the late war, and how that struggle has unified and nationalized public sentiment, and cemented more strongly the bonds which hold the states together in the Union. We give the greater portion of his address:

Under hostile fire on a foreign soil, fighting in a common cause, the memory of old disagreements has faded into history. From camp and campaign there came the magic healing which has closed ancient wounds and effaced their scars. For this result every American patriot will forever rejoice. It is no small indemnity for the cost of the war.

This government has proved itself invincible in the recent war, and out of it has come a nation which will remain indivisible for ever more. No worthier contributions have been made in patriotism and in men than by the people of these southern states. When at last the opportunity came they were eager to meet it, and with promptness responded to the call of country.

Intrusted with the able leadership of men dear to them, who had marched with their fathers under another flag, now fighting under the old flag again, they have gloriously helped to defend its spotless folds and added new luster to its shining stars.

That flag has been planted in two hemispheres and there it remains, the symbol of liberty and law, of peace and progress. Who will withdraw it from the people, over whom it floats in protecting folds? Who will haul it down? We could have avoided all the difficulties that lie across the pathway of the nation if a few months ago we had coldly ignored the piteous appeals of the starving and oppressed inhabitants of Cuba. If we had blinded ourselves to our suffering neighbors, the issue of territorial expansion in the Antilles and the East Indies would not have been raised.

But, could we have justified such a course? Is there any one who would declare another to have been the better course? With less humanity and less courage on our part the Spanish flag, instead of the Stars and Stripes, would still be floating at Cavite, at Ponce, and at Santiago, and a 'chance in the race of life' would be wanting to millions of human beings who to-day call this nation noble, and who, I trust, will live to call it blessed.

Thus far we have done our supreme duty. Shall we now, when the victory won in war is written in the treaty of peace and the civilized world applauds and waits in expectation, turn timidly away from the duties imposed upon the country by its own great deeds?



And when the mists fade and we see with clearer vision, may we not go forth rejoicing in a strength which has been employed solely for humanity and always been tempered with justice and mercy, confident of our ability to meet the exigencies which await us, because confident that our course is one of duty and our cause that of right?

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has announced in a decision that releases of mortgages, and deeds of trust considered as mortgages, are exempt from the stamp tax under the farm revenue act, no matter in what form they are executed, whether with the solemnity of a deed, certificate or satisfaction, or simply as an entry of satisfaction on the margin of the record book in which the released mortgage or deed of trust is recorded.

A report from the Pacific Coast states that five large ships are now in process of construction for the Chinese, Japanese, and Philippine trade. Each of these ships is over 400 feet long, will have a speed capacity of 400 miles a day or over. It is also said that the demand for ships on the coast is far beyond the capacity of the shipyards to supply. This boom in shipbuilding is the result of the broadening out of the foreign policy of the government.

The attorney-general and the courts have decided that under the war revenue law, the senders of telegrams should pay the tax. Perhaps the express companies are expecting that this decision will place the responsibility of affixing the revenue stamp upon express parcels, but so long as those companies do business under a Michigan charter the legislature can make the rules under which they are taxed.

Michigan beet sugar, manufactured at Bay City, is being sold in Chicago, and its appearance on the market has given the sugar trust a severe shock. It is rumored an attempt will be made to bring the Bay City factory into the trust, but we doubt this. The trust, when it finds that four or five other factories are likely to be doing business in this State next season, and that New York and Illinois are also likely to add a number more to the list, will conclude that it will not pay to buy up concerns which are likely to be replaced by others as soon as they have been secured. This is the legitimate and most effective method of knocking out a trust—make the business too large for it to handle. About that time the trust will conclude to go out of business.

The results of agrarian agitation in Germany, by which importations of agricultural products, especially meats, have been either prohibited, or placed under such stringent restrictions as to cut off the supply very materially, is seen in the following paragraph taken from the London Meats Trade Journal: "The German newspapers every day refer to the high price of meat in the country, and complain of the stringent regulations governing the import of cattle. This state of affairs has greatly stimulated the consumption of horse flesh in towns. It now appears that to supply the poor man's craving for animal food dogs are being slaughtered in various towns of the empire. Slaughter houses where dogs are prepared for human food have been established at Chemnitz, Leipzig, Dresden, Breslau, Halle, and other centers. In Dresden dog flesh is said to cost about 3d or 3½d per lb." Laws so stringent as to compel people to live on the meat of horses and dogs, or go without, are the essence of official tyranny, and we can only wonder that a liberty loving people like the Germans have ever submitted to them.

## ARE YOU ONE OF THEM?

The subscriptions of several thousands of our readers will expire with our next week's issue and among these are many old subscribers and many new ones that have taken The Michigan Farmer for a short time only, but we hope that the paper has made permanent friends of all. When you can get The Michigan Farmer 52 weeks for only 60 cents, can you afford to be without it? Can you not look over your past subscription and find some one copy that has alone been worth much more than 60 cents to you? Is it not good business policy to give your support to the paper that offers to you the agents' commissions and prizes when all you have to do is to send your own order instead of having the agent do it? Does it not pay you to keep in touch with progressive and practical people as The Michigan Farmer will keep you?

## WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE

Senator Mason, of Illinois, has announced his championship of the postal savings bank and of pure food regulation. "I am especially interested," said he, talking on the subject, "in two matters of general legislation, namely, the bill establishing a postal savings bank system, and a resolution providing for investigation of the adulteration of food products. We are the only civilized people in the world who are not protected in the matter of food adulteration, and this bill affects all articles of food subject to such adulteration. Our tea, coffee, vinegar, and spices, and at least fifty per cent. of everything that goes on our tables is adulterated. Some of it is deleterious to health and life and all of it is fraudulent. This resolution has been favorably reported and I hope to see its passage."

The advantage of getting information concerning the agriculture of the new island possessions of the United States, through those qualified by training to obtain the same, is obvious. Lieutenant A. P. Hain, instructor in the agricultural branch of the University of California, who is now stationed with one of the California regiments at Manila, has been officially detailed to conduct an investigation into the agricultural resources of the Philippines, and to make a report of the result to the government at Washington.

The central government and the various states are working in close and profitable co-operation in agricultural investigation and experimentation. Director A. C. True, of the Experiment Stations of the Department of Agriculture, states that as a rule the agricultural experiment stations all over the country are working more thoroughly and efficiently for the benefit of American agriculture than ever before. The appropriation by Congress of \$720,000 for the support of the stations last year was supplemented by over \$400,000 State funds.

There has been considerable progress during the past year in the more complete organization of courses of instruction in agriculture in our colleges and universities. The time has come when, other things being equal, the farmer who has had a good scientific course in agriculture as a part of his education, has a decided advantage in gaining a livelihood from the soil. With a view to securing more efficient teaching in the several branches of agriculture, the general subject is being divided and a number of colleges now have separate divisions of plant production, animal husbandry, dairying, etc.

The situation in Germany as relates to the importations of American agricultural products, while by no means reassuring at the present time, is liable to undergo a great change almost any day, when the masses of the German people awake to the true condition of affairs. Germany aspires to be a great manufacturing nation, in fact, she already is such—the strongest on the continent of Europe—and she has, within the past few years cut in heavily on the trade of Great Britain. Being this, a great and growing manufacturing country, with her comparatively limited area and large population, she cannot expect to be a great agricultural country, nor is she. Whereas agriculture and manufacturing go hand in hand in the United States with its vast productive area, the farmer selling his products to the factory hand or other laborer, the situation is different in Germany. Political economy teaches that the cheapest manufacture is possible where is the cheapest food and cheap living for operatives, and Germany cannot produce food products cheaply, as compared with other countries, especially the United States. It is quite evident therefore, that when the German nation realizes that in order to build up her manufactures to compete with the world, she must have the cheapest food possible, and that good and wholesome food can be purchased from the United States cheaper than her own farmers can possibly raise it, agrarian interests will be sacrificed and the products of America admitted more freely into the country's daily consumption.

The promoters of the Binghamton Beet Sugar Co., N. Y., are much gratified with the results of the first year's trial of the new industry. Mr. J. H. Rodgers, the president, says: "We are making analyses of every crop of beets received from the various farmers and the average of these is very satisfactory indeed. We can grow beets that

are rich in sugar, and as high in purity as they can be produced in France and Germany, and the crop is a profitable one to our farmers. With suitable land they cannot afford not to grow beets as soon as they learn how best to cultivate them. We will distribute this year among them about \$100,000, every penny of which is for a crop for which they have heretofore received not a cent. The factory is turning out about twenty tons per day."

GUY E. MITCHELL.

## OBJECTS TO THE SUGAR BOUNTY.

To the Editor of The Michigan Farmer.

Being a farmer I have read with interest the two articles on sugar from Dr. Kedzie and Clinton D. Smith. Now, is this the right way to figure it: For one ton of beets that will make 240 lbs. of sugar the factory pays \$4, and the State pays the factory \$2.40 bounty, and the United States pays it in tariff \$2.40—protection—leaving the factory 80 cents for taking one ton of beets. But if the ton of beets will make 280 lbs. of sugar the factory pays \$4.50, the State pays the factory \$2.80 bounty, and the United States \$2.80 protection, leaving the factory \$1.10 for taking a ton of beets.

Now, Mr. Editor, I think the factory ought to be satisfied if the sugar eaters and taxpayers paid for the beets and no more.

Hadley, Mich.

GROWLER.

## RENEW NOW.

Reader, if you have not already renewed your subscription to The Michigan Farmer for the next year there is only one more issue due you. We call special attention to the fact that it is our invariable rule to stop every subscription to this paper when time paid for expires. We feel, sincerely, that every present reader is a friend and in a manner a member of our great family, and we shall dislike very much to remove any of the names from our list. So let us hear from you at once with only 60 cents and your paper will come to you without interruption. We also request each to send us one or more new names along with your own.

J. M., of Sanilac county, asks the following question: "If the prosecution of the oleomargarine butter makers and vendors get a judgment against them on the plea mentioned in Farmer of December 10, is not the farmer who colors his butter equally liable?" It seems not under the law. The farmer does not color his butter to enable him to sell it for anything else, while the oleo manufacturer does. If the farmer was coloring his butter with the intention of selling it as a more valuable product, thus deceiving the purchaser, he would be liable to punishment under the law. However, the distinction is a fine one, and as to its justice we must leave it for the courts to determine.

## EASY TO GET.

Truitt, Mich., Dec. 12, 1898.

Editor Michigan Farmer: My subscription expires January 1, 1899. I cannot get along without The Farmer, so I send you four new subscribers with my own renewal. Think I will get two or three more soon.

Yours truly, JAMES M. TRUITT.

## NEWS SUMMARY.

## Michigan.

Albion college trustees have decided to establish two new chairs of instruction, pedagogy and physical culture.

J. C. Joiner, owner and publisher of the Hillsdale Standard, died suddenly in Quincy last Saturday night.

Atty.-Gen. Maynard has advised Food Commissioner Grosvenor that he can prosecute under existing laws those who adulterate oleomargarine by coloring it.

Capitalists from New York and Boston have organized a new mining company at Houghton. It has a capital of \$2,500,000.

The \$200,000 necessary to establish a sugar factory at Benton Harbor has been raised and work on the buildings will begin shortly after the holidays.

Michigan's second beet sugar factory, which is to be built at West Bay City, promises to be in process of erection soon. A soliciting committee is busy making contracts with farmers for growing the beets needed.

Henry A. Chapin, the millionaire mine owner, and probably the wealthiest man in Michigan, died at his home in Niles last Friday night. His fortune is variously estimated at \$10,000,000 to \$30,000,000. He was 85 years old, and had lived in this State since 1836.

After several days' hard work, ice-crushers succeeded in releasing a big fleet imprisoned by ice-floes at the mouth of Detroit river and in the north channel of Lake Erie last Monday. At one time 25 vessels were fast in the ice, constituting the largest and most valuable fleet ever known to become icebound.

## General.

It is reported from Hayti that the president of San Domingo was assassinated last week.

It is stated that the text of the peace treaty will not be made public at present, but it will be submitted to the Senate immediately after the holiday recess.

The Philippine insurgents are said to be demanding, for the release of Spanish prisoners now in their hands, the \$20,000,000 which Spain is to receive from the United States.

A new naval station is to be established at Havana soon after the first of the year. Station ships will be assigned, Spain's floating dry-dock will be bought and the station placed on equal footing with the large navy yards in the United States.

Calvin Stewart Brice, the well-known financier and former United States senator from Ohio, died of pneumonia at his New York home on Thursday of last week. He was only 53 years of age. His remains were interred at his old home—Lima, Ohio.

The American Tin Plate Company, which is said to be a gigantic trust, was incorporated under the laws of New Jersey last week, and will begin corporate existence with the new year. This corporation is said to control 95 per cent. of the tin plate mills in this country. Its capital stock is \$50,000,000.

The French government has signified its acceptance of the proposed monument to Gen. Lafayette, to be paid for by American school children, and will donate a site opposite the Louvre gallery, near Gambetta's monument, for its erection in Paris in 1900. The American commission has received \$50,000, principally from children, and the project is an assured success.

A few of the most radical opposers of the expansion policy met in Boston recently and formed a so-called Anti-Imperialist League. The list of vice-presidents contains the names of well-known men, the majority of whom have been more or less prominent in the past. Among them are John Sherman, John G. Carlisle, Bishop Potter, Grover Cleveland, Andrew Carnegie, Gov. Pingree, George F. Edmunds, Samuel Gompers, Herbert Myrick and Carl Schurz.

Senator Mason, of Illinois, has introduced a resolution directing the committee on agriculture to inquire into legislation pending before the German reichstag, calculated to prohibit the importation into Germany of American sausages and other meat products, and directing the committee, should the legislation become law, to report immediately a bill to require the inspection of sugars, meats, wines and other food products which are imported into this country from Germany.

## JOS. HORNE &amp; CO.,

ESTABLISHED 1849.

## AFTER THE HOLIDAYS

That's when you may revel in bargains. It is our custom immediately after the Holidays to mark down everything preparatory to in-coming spring goods.

We are not going to tell you here, in fact we can't, of what these bargains are; but you can rest assured that if you are holding off to purchase a new dress, either of wool or silk fabric, that you will realize a very great saving by writing to us at once and asking us for samples of our marked down goods.

A word of caution: In these sales the rush for bargains is tremendous, and as there is a buying public connected with our store by steam and street car line of over eight hundred thousand people, it will be necessary for you living at a distance to be quite smart in getting in your orders.

We shall keep you posted on prices, but the difference in time between issues of this paper is considerable. Therefore write us at once.

## PITTSBURG, PA.

## SAVE THE REPUBLIC.

To learn how to remonstrate effectually against the fatal policy of extending United States sovereignty over the Philippines, involving a large standing army, greatly increased taxation and disaster to American liberties and industries, address Secretary Anti-Imperialist League, Washington, D. C.

BE QUICK,  
The Danger Is Imminent.



## The Household.

CONDUCTED BY MRS. ELLA E. ROCKWOOD.

We should be pleased to have any of our readers who take an interest in household topics send in their views and opinions upon any subject which is under discussion, or which they wish discussed. The invitation is general, and we hope to see it accepted by many. Address all letters for The Household to Mrs. Ella E. Rockwood, Flint, Mich.

### WHEN CHRISTMAS COMES.

Have you any grudge you'd like to pay?  
Any wrong laid up from a by-gone day?  
Gather them all now, and lay them away  
When Christmas comes.

Hard thoughts are heavy to carry, my friend,  
And life is short from beginning to end!  
Be kind to yourself, leave nothing to mend  
When Christmas comes.

Do you know some fellow stranded and poor,  
As good as you, but with much to endure?  
Do not forget him, however obscure,  
When Christmas comes.

Are there not some little ones, fair and sweet,  
Who know not as yet what they have to meet?  
Perhaps with joy you could make their hearts beat  
When Christmas comes.

Any cloud you can lift from hearts of care?  
Any kind word needed—try to be there,  
And always add help to sympathy's prayer  
When Christmas comes.

Fear not, my friend, giving more than your due,  
Remember the gift presented to you  
In the long ago, and try to be true  
When Christmas comes.  
—William Lytle.

### HOME CHATS WITH FARMERS' WIVES.

TEN DAYS IN THE UPPER PENINSULA.  
Dear friends, your editor herewith extends to you Christmas greeting, and trusts that in every home where The Farmer goes there will be joy, peace and good cheer on this most blessed day. May all the stockings be filled to their tops and the board be spread with the good things of this world. In the midst of our own plenty let's not forget those not so fortunately situated, and may each of us be enabled to do a little to bring cheer to the homes of the needy.

I have just returned from a ten days trip to the Upper Peninsula, where I have been doing institute work. It was my first visit to that part of the State, and I can truly say a strong impression of its possibilities has been left on my mind.

We do not recognize the fact that the great north region has agricultural advantages, most of us believing it to be given over to mining operations and lumbering. Yet in several counties there are fine farms, with good buildings, orchards, etc., which vie with our lower sections in the production of fruits, vegetables, live stock, dairy products and grains. Of the field crops corn is the only one they have no certainty of successfully cultivating, the seasons generally being too short for it's maturity, and that difficulty is not found in all parts of the peninsula.

I brought home with me some of the handsomest apples I have ever seen, which were grown there. It is simply astonishing to one from the southern part of the State to learn what excellent crops can be grown upon those new farms, and a more enthusiastic set of farmers and their wives cannot be found anywhere.

Of course there is much unimproved land, and mining and lumbering are still the chief industries. Many of the farmers go into the woods during the winter, and farm it during the summer. When the timber is cleared away the land begins to be cultivated and eventually much of that broad area will be dotted with farm houses and barns.

There are a good many women up there who read the Household, too, and I received many a hearty handclasp, accompanied with cheering words of appreciation. Now that the price of The Farmer has been reduced to such a small figure we expect greatly to enlarge our acquaintance all around.

While I was absent from home a great bundle of letters accumulated. Many of these were in regard to Christmas, and while it is too late to make all of them available for the use of our readers this year we shall use them from time to time, as the gift season is not confined to the holidays alone. The birthdays are to be remembered also, and hints along this line are appropriate at any time.

### A CHRISTMAS LETTER.

I fear I come too late to be of much service in the matter of suggesting Christmas gifts, but want to tell of one way in which we have spent several Christmas mornings.

When "dem doubles," as our Dutch boy used to call the twin babies, finally outgrew the period which finds intense delight in a fat stocking, more thought was required to make the distribution of gifts a happy informal occasion.

Several times we have adopted the plan of hiding the presents, with most gratifying results. Each article was neatly tied in paper and marked with the name of the person for whom it was intended, and the greater part of Christmas Eve would be spent in slyly depositing these mysterious packages in odd corners all over the lower floor. Next morning when the chores were done at the barn and the house in order, the grand march began. Sometimes the hunt would occupy two hours or more and what a frolic it was! Conspiracy ran high and the more inconspicuous the hiding place the greater the fun. One year the mother found a set of new dishes under the hired man's bed, and a pair of slippers in the steamer.

This year festivities must be devised which may take place in the dear invalid's room, for our soldier boy wants a finger in all the family pies.

The two little nephews have "motherly" hearts and are to be treated to a pair of homemade cloth dolls, too good natured to resent the ill-treatment they are likely to receive. It is very easy to cut a pattern. Fill with sawdust and insert a small stick long enough to reach from the bottom of the body to the top of the head, and so furnish the necessary amount of backbone.

Pretty little booklets can be made at home. Get some sheets of bristol board, cut about six inches square and copy on these some new poem or an old favorite, or a series of quotations. Cut two covers, slightly larger, from delicately tinted pulp board and fasten at the back with narrow ribbon or silk cord. If one is clever with the brush or pen, these may be prettily decorated, but as nature overlooked my need of such talent I have used instead sprays of flowers carefully cut from the colored plates of seed catalogues. You would scarcely believe they could be so pretty.

If one has small engravings which are not valuable enough to frame they may be carefully mounted on bristol board of a heavy quality and framed in a two-inch band of pulp board. A half-inch ribbon of some harmonizing shade should be fastened at the upper corners and tied in a bow to hang the picture.

Dressing sacks are easily made as they require little fitting. The back may be laid in wattleau plaits and the fronts gathered at the neck, or the fullness may be gathered into a yoke. They should fall at least six inches below the waist. Heavy outing flannel, cotton or wool eider-down, flannel, almost any soft cloth will do for the material.

Black India linen at ten cents a yard makes very pretty aprons for elderly ladies. Cross stitch the hem and band with colored wash cotton or silk.

Sometimes the busy housekeeper appreciates most some article of wearing apparel which she finds so little time to make for herself. I know at present I wish most decidedly that some kindly disposed relative would bestow on me a set of kitchen aprons.

The great art of making Christmas presents is to send a gift which will be peculiarly appropriate and will carry with it not the faintest sense of obligation.

A Merry Christmas to all the Household band.  
Battle Creek. V. I. M.

### CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

In response to our editor's invitation to make some suggestions in regard to Christmas presents, I will say that a very useful, as well as acceptable gift is a photograph holder. It is made from a long piece of felt, pinked all around, and with slanting slits cut just right to hold the corners of the pictures. When filled it is folded over and over and tied with ribbons. This is especially nice for the members of the family who are away from home a portion of the time and wish to take pictures with them. One would need to have a pattern to cut one of these holders from, in order to be sure that it was right.

I am making needle pads for the little girls of the family. I cut five or six leaves from flannel, ladies' cloth, or any all-wool goods, using a variety of colors. They are shaped something like this: Cut an oblong circle four and one-half inches long by three and one-half wide. Then cut off one-half inch at one end. This is the top of the bottom leaf. Grade the remaining leaves upward, each leaf being about a seam's width smaller than the one below it. Work each leaf with a buttonhole stitch in bright colors, fasten them together at the top with a binding of ribbon or silk, and add a loop of ribbon to hang it by. This makes the little maid independent of her mother's needle book.

M. A. S.

### SOMETHING FOR THE CHILDREN TO MAKE.

The average child takes a great deal more pleasure in making Christmas presents to give to friends than in having them bought "already made," and with a little assistance from some older person there are quite a number of pretty and useful articles that they can make. I will give you some hints from our own experience.

Many of the magazines and papers send out colored pictures, and from these can be made very pretty calendars.

We went to a furniture store and bought some of the heavy cardboard matting used in framing pictures. We took the pieces just as they had been cut out—some were in panel shape and some square. One long panel I cut in two, making two shorter ones. Then bring out your colored pictures. Select one suitable for the shape of your card, cut out the figures and paste them on. One very pretty one we made was a flight of bluebirds. The birds were cut out separately and arranged diagonally across the card. If you are good at lettering you can put a quotation across the upper blank corner about the flight of time, and on the lower one, your calendar. These we take from the advertising calendars. Straighten the wires at the back of the card, make corresponding holes with a strong needle in your card, transfer the leaves, clinch the wires at the back as they were before, and there you are.

Sachet bags are always in order and nice to keep in your handkerchief and ribbon boxes. Nearly every scrap-bag contains suitable material. White lawn, the hem edged with a bit of lace, the bag stuffed with pink cotton and tied with pink ribbon, makes very dainty ones, and are not too hard for little fingers to make. The sachet powder is sprinkled in the cotton.

One little girl is making an "every-day muffler for Papa." This is made of a square of soft tan cashmere. The hem is basted for her, and she is learning to put in her stitches straight and even.

A word now to the mothers. Take time to help the little ones plan and make things. They are learning more lessons than one, and not the least of these is the giving of their own time and work for the happiness of others.

And do not forget that separate table for the little ones when you plan your Christmas dinner. If I have time before Christmas I will tell you about the table our children had last year.

(This letter, along with a number of others, came too late to be available before Christmas work was completed. We hope our correspondent will come again.—Ed.)

### HYACINTHS.

Nothing can surpass the exquisite beauty of the hyacinth. Its spikes of rich waxen bloom, so graceful, so delicate, and so deliciously fragrant, coming at the dawn of the growing season, are a revelation and inspire us with new joys and new hopes.

A bed of these flowers displaying our national colors—red, white and blue—is gorgeous in appearance, makes the air redolent with sweet perfume, and is a charming object to everyone who sees it.

But it is not only as outdoor plants that hyacinths are valuable. Potted in soil or placed in glasses or bowls of water, they grow admirably, almost without care, and never fail to develop their grand spikes of bloom.

No person who cultivates window plants should neglect to have a few hyacinths in pots or in glasses to furnish flowers in winter.

The single-flowered sorts are the

earliest and most reliable, and by many are thought to be more graceful and beautiful than the double-flowered varieties. The White Roman hyacinths are particularly adapted to pots and glasses, and will bloom well if they have but half a chance. Any of the single-flowered sorts, however, and all the early-flowered double ones, will bloom well in the window with ordinary care.

I am deeply interested in the culture of hardy bulbs, and to me their popularity as window plants is no marvel, for all who plant them once successfully are so charmed with the result of their labors that they are sure to plant them again.

Writers upon the subject of bulb culture seldom mention the proper temperature that should be afforded them. I know not why, as it is of vital importance. Indeed upon this one point rests success or failure. They should be kept cool; mercury standing at 60 degrees Fahrenheit through the day is about right. At night it may drop 10 or 15 degrees lower without injury to them.

I can recall a time in my early experience with these bulbs when their deportment was very displeasing instead of becoming a source of pleasure all winter, as I fondly hoped. They yielded nothing but a bountiful crop of regrets, and I know how such an experience stirs one's emotions and complicates his or her feelings. I grow every season nearly every species that is listed, and I can plant them all with the utmost confidence, feeling sure they will show their colors in due time. The whole secret is temperature.

My bulbs are mostly grown at north windows. They get but little sunshine, and some of them not any, but the light is good, and that is of more importance. In fact, they must have it to develop healthy plants, and they like it in full measure.

Tuscola Co., Mich. IDA BELMER CAMP.

S. G.—Send 6c. in stamps for a 10c. package of any color you wish to the Magic Dye Co., Albion, Mich. They make the best package dyes in the world.

### GEARHART'S IMPROVED KNITTER

WITH RIBBING ATTACHMENT.  
Knits everything, from homespun or factory yarns, equal to hand knitting. Cheap, Practical, Simple. Illustrated instruction teaches you all about it. Only machine made with RIBBING ATTACHMENT. Ahead of all competitors. Satisfaction guaranteed. Money for agents. Plain and ribbed samples free. Address, J. E. GEARHART, CLEARFIELD, PA.

### MOTHERS

Your Children Cured of Bed-Wetting. Sample Free. Dr. F. E. May, Bloomington, Ill.

Meat smoked in a few hours with KRAUSE'S LIQUID EXTRACT OF SMOKE. Made from hickory wood. Cheaper, cleaner, sweeter, and surer than the old way for circular. E. KRAUSE & BRO., Milton, Pa.

### ONLY \$18!

FREIGHT PAID, FULLY Guaranteed.



Our New and Improved High-Arm

### 7-DRAWER MICHIGAN FARMER SEWING MACHINE

With All Latest Attachments.

Warranted 10 Years. Freight Paid by us.

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## NEW YEAR'S DISHES.

**Oyster Pie.**—Make a puff paste, in the proportion of a pound and a half of fresh butter to two pounds of flour. Roll it out, rather thick, into two sheets. Butter a deep dish, and line the bottom and sides of it with paste. Fill it up with crusts of bread for the purpose of supporting the lid while it is baking, as the oysters will be too much done if they are cooked in the pie. Cover it with the other sheet of paste, having first buttered the flat rim of the dish. Notch the edges of the pie handsomely, or ornament them with leaves of paste, which you may form with tin cutters. Make a little slit in the middle of the lid, and stick firmly into it a paste flower. Put the dish into a moderate oven, and while the paste is baking prepare the oysters, which should be large and fresh. Put them into a stew pan with half their liquor—a quart of oysters should be used—thickened with the yolk of six hard boiled eggs, grated, and bits of butter rolled in flour, about quarter of a pound. Season with pepper and salt. Stew the oysters five minutes. When the paste is baked, carefully take off the lid, remove the pieces of bread crust, and put in the oysters and gravy. Replace the lid, and send the pie to table warm.

**Range Pudding.**—Grate the yellow peel and squeeze the juice of two large, smooth, deep-colored oranges. Stir together to a cream half a pound of butter and half a pound of white sugar, and a wine glass of rose-water. Stir in six pounds macaroni. Beat very light ten eggs, omitting the whites of four; mix the whole very well together, and put it into a buttered dish, with a broad edge, around which lay a border of puff paste neatly notched. Bake it half an hour, and when cold grate white sugar over it.

**Lemon Custard.**—Take four large, fine lemons, and roll them under your hand on the table to increase the juice. Then squeeze them into a bowl and mix with the juice a very small cupful of cold water. Use none of the peel. Add gradually sufficient sugar to make it very sweet. Beat twelve eggs till very light, and then stir the lemon juice gradually into them, beating very hard at the last. Put the mixture into cups, and bake it ten minutes. When done, grate nutmeg over the tops of each, and set them on the ice or in a very cold place.

**New Year's Cake.**—One and a quarter pounds of powdered white sugar; one pound of butter; half a pint of cold water; three eggs; three and one quarter pounds of sifted flour; one teaspoonful of soda dissolved in a little warm water. Rub the butter or chop it up with the flour; dissolve the sugar in the water, mix all well with the beaten eggs, roll out in a sheet about half an inch thick, cut in square cakes and bake quickly.

**White Cake.**—Take three cupfuls of powdered white sugar; one cupful of butter and beat to a cream. Stir in half a cupful of sweet cream, then the whites of ten eggs whipped to a stiff froth. Sift one teaspoonful of cream tartar and half a teaspoonful of soda, with four and a half cups of flour. Flavor with one teaspoonful of essence of bitter almonds. Stir well and bake in layer tins. Between the layers fill with fresh grated coconut with quarter its weight of sugar. Ice the top of cake with the whites of three eggs and half a pound of pulverized sugar.

**Nut Cake.**—Two cups of white sugar, one cup of butter, cream these together, then add one cup of cold water, four eggs well beaten, three cups of sifted flour, in which is mixed one level teaspoonful of soda and two teaspoonfuls of cream tartar. Lastly add two teaspoonfuls of hickory nut meats broken into rather small bits.

ILKA.

## "MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS."

The above is what an old schoolmaster took for his motto. He would often, on seeing a pupil copying from another's slate, or if a pupil would tell him of another's misdoings, thunder the words out in such a tone that the culprit never cared to be caught doing so again. I know, for I was one of his pupils.

Although I haven't always adhered to the rule, I have never forgotten the motto. I think, were every one to make that his motto, the world would be quite a paradise. What a lot of trouble and enmity might be saved. For instance, a neighbor will hurry in on some fancied or real errand. Oh,

no, she hasn't time to stop, but have you heard of that disgraceful thing about Susie, or Johnnie somebody? If you haven't she will sit down and probably stay a half an hour and someone will get the most terrible tongue thrashing. The more awful the story the better pleased she seems.

I know such a one, probably we all do. I have just longed sometimes to shout, "Mind your own business." One day she came and brought her knitting and stayed the afternoon. I presume I might have been in better business, but I just kept track, and there was scarcely a person for several miles around but received a scathing from her tongue. She would make one feel that this was a terrible world to live in.

I believe that is the cause of so many family quarrels. The members of the family don't know how to mind their own business—each one makes all family affairs his own. For instance, if two are having a dispute the rest all join in and take sides, and what might have been settled quietly will surely end in hard feelings.

And again, so many don't give others credit for knowing their own mind, and most people will resent such treatment. Seems to me it would be a good plan to teach children the meaning of the schoolmaster's motto, so when they grow up there won't be so many disagreeable, tale-bearing people.

How many parents there are who encourage children to tell all they see and hear about people, using them as instruments of receiving news of people's doings. How very disagreeable such children are. They have a way of always seeing and knowing everything that's going on, and how wicked of parents to encourage their innocent little ones in such bad habits.

I thoroughly believe in the old but true saying, that if everyone would simply mind their own business they would have all and more than they could do well. If we would take it as our motto we would see less in others to mind.

I. D.

## The Poultry Yard.

For The Michigan Farmer.

## FOR SPRING CHICKENS.

Our modern methods of living are changing our farming in many particulars. The demand is now for early spring lambs and chickens in February and March. Fine tender broilers at this season are naturally high priced, and it is this which induces poultry raisers to prepare the feast for those who can afford to pay for it. Early spring chickens have to be raised in the winter season, and to do this requires a certain expert knowledge that is the price of success.

Spring chickens at 50 cents a pound are profitable, and even at much less than this one can find money in the business. Besides it gives the poultry grower work to do at what is generally considered a lazy season of the year. In fact there is more money to-day in raising spring chickens and winter eggs than in any other branch of this business. Those who stick to the beaten tracks are the ones who never make a great deal out of their enterprise. But every one will not succeed in raising spring chickens, and it is well that this is so, for otherwise the business would soon be overdone. It takes shrewd business tact, exact knowledge, and careful application of that knowledge, to make the work profitable.

In the first place one must have a warm house suitable for the chickens. It does not take a large one to accommodate 100 chickens, but it must be warm, well ventilated and even in temperature. This is the first requisite. The house should be located so that it will receive the sun through the glass most of the day. The sitters must be selected for their success in hatching eggs, and those that show an inclination to neglect the eggs should be discarded. The sitters must be fed separately when off the nest so they will not be bothered and worried by the others.

The sitting house should be darker than the main room, and the nests should be arranged in rows. Each hen will learn to know her own nest. Water as well as food must be provided the hens daily. When the chicks are hatched they must be kept together in small colonies free from cold winds

and storms. They must be kept growing all the time, and good food, water and clean surroundings will accomplish this. Warm mush, bread, oatmeal and scraps from the table should be their chief daily diet. New hatchings should be made all of the time so that younger chicks will take the place of those sent to market. The market for spring chickens is best at Christmas time, but the demand continues right along until May. It is astonishing how many can be raised in a small house by hatching out new broods every two weeks, and by spring one will find more profit than can be made from the old chickens all through the year.

Maryland. JAMES S. SMITH.

For The Michigan Farmer.

## TO KEEP CHICKENS FREE OF VERMIN.

Poultry raisers everywhere are continually annoyed with the question, what can I do to get rid of the lice on my fowls during hot weather. I will cheerfully give you my remedy. Remove the perches from the coop, and put in new ones hung by small wires from above, not allowing the ends to touch the wall. Nail a small strip across to keep them from swinging. By so doing you prevent lice from breeding on the wall and getting on the chickens at night. They can not live unless they can get on to the birds at night.

I tried several remedies, and found my coop still full of the small chicken lice; but when I put in the swing perches, I found them dead on the wall, which was a great satisfaction to me.

Shlawassee Co., Mich. C. ST. CLAIR

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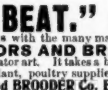
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THE MICHIGAN FARMER, Detroit, Mich.



## Legal Department.

CONDUCTED BY EARL D. BABST,  
9 to 11 Bank Chambers, No. 80 Griswold St.,  
Detroit, Mich.

**Descent and Distribution of Property of Widower Leaving No Children.**—W. B., Reading, Mich.—B loses wife and child, then he dies, leaving no will; no blood relative. Can his wife's sisters hold the property?—No. His property will escheat to the State for the use of the primary school fund.

**Adverse Possession to Give Title.**—Subscriber, Otisville, Mich.—Fifteen years adverse possession is sufficient to give title. It is a question requiring a thorough examination of the facts before an opinion can be given as to the legality of your particular holding. Owing to value of your improvements you should make a hard fight.

**What Does Janitor Work Include.**—V. O., Sandstone, Mich.—If one agrees to do the janitor work of a public building is the preparation of kindling included in such work?—There has been no judicial consideration of this question that we can find. It is entirely a matter of opinion, based on custom.

**Cattle May be Driven Along the Public Highway.**—Subscriber, Lakeview, Mich.—A owns unfenced land along the highway. B drives cattle along the highway. Several break away and get into A's crops. Can A hold B for trespass?—Not if B used ordinary care and diligence, and the cattle escaped without his fault, provided he immediately pursues and drives them off as soon as possible.

**Who Eligible to Office of School Director—When Mortgage Outlaws.**—S. L., Chester, Mich.—1. Can a man hold the office of school director if he has no taxable property?—No. 2. Can he hold the office if his wife has taxable property and it is assessed in his name and he pays the taxes?—No. Statute requires that he must own the property. Howell's statutes, Sec. 5056. 3. When does a mortgage outlaw?—Fifteen years after due, or within fifteen years after last payment.

**Duties of Guardian.**—J. W., North Branch, Mich.—Can the guardian use the money of her ward?—The guardian is required to care for and manage the property of the ward, and to make complete settlement with the judge of probate, or with the ward, or his legal representative upon the expiration of the guardianship. For any shortage the bondsmen would be liable. How the estate shall be managed is a matter of great importance to the bondsmen, who may ask to be relieved, if they become dissatisfied with guardian's management.

**Teacher's Salary—Legal Holidays—Labor Debts.**—Reader, Lakeview, Mich.—1. Are teachers allowed two holidays when Christmas and New Year's come on Sunday?—Yes. Judge Campbell stated the law as follows: "We are of the opinion that school management should always conform to those decent usages which recognize the propriety of omitting to hold public exercises on recognized holidays, and that it is not lawful to impose forfeitures or deductions for such proper suspension of labor. Schools should conform to what may be fairly expected of all institutions in civilized communities." The Monday following Christmas and New Year's is the recognized holiday, when the holiday falls on the Sunday immediately preceding. 2. Labor accounts are outlawed after six years.

**Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Companies—Insured.**—Bear Lake, Mich.—Can a mutual fire insurance company be organized within the limits of the counties covered by the charter of an existing company?—From an examination of the statutes it would seem that another company might be chartered, but we do not wish to express an opinion for publication without an extended examination of statutes, charter, and decisions. Under the statute there seems to be no reason why you cannot limit your business to a single county.

**Joint Tenancy—Power of Congress to Regulate Money.**—Enquirer, Weston, Mich.—1. A and B are husband and wife and buy and each pay one-half price of real estate, taking a joint deed. They have no children. Upon the death of either what becomes of the property?—It goes to the survivor absolutely. 2. Is there anything in the constitution of the United States to pre-

vent Congress from enacting a statute making 50 grains of gold the standard dollar?—No. 3. If gold continues to be mined at present rate will not some such statute be necessary to prevent the gold dollar from becoming cheap?—We do not know.

## The Markets.

### WHEAT.

Conditions have been against the market the past week, but values have held very steady. The first set-back was the heavy increase in the visible supply, nearly 4,000,000 bu, when for the same week last year there was a large decrease. Still the total is considerably below that of a year ago when it was unprecedentedly light. Not so much has been doing in the export trade, as the close of navigation has added to the cost at which the grain can be laid down at sea-board ports. Reports from Russia, the Argentine and Australia were generally unfavorable to holders. Wednesday there was a better tone to the market and a substantial advance in prices. Thursday there was a reaction, and part of Wednesday's gain was lost. Liverpool, however, showed an advance.

The following table exhibits the daily closing sales of spot wheat in the Detroit market from December 1 to December 21, inclusive:

	No. 2.	No. 1.	Mixed	Red.	White.
Dec. 1.....	70 1/4	70 1/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 2.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 3.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 4.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 5.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 6.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 7.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 8.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 9.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 10.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 11.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 12.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 13.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 14.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 15.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 16.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 17.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 18.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 19.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 20.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 21.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4
" 22.....	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4	69 3/4

The following is the record of the closing prices on the various deals in futures each day during the week:

	Dec.	May.
Friday.....	69 3/4	70 1/4
Saturday.....	69 3/4	70 1/4
Monday.....	69 3/4	70 1/4
Tuesday.....	69 3/4	70 1/4
Wednesday.....	69 3/4	70 1/4
Thursday.....	69 3/4	70 1/4

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada on Saturday last was 30,559,000 bu, as compared with 26,733,000 bu the previous week, and 35,565,000 bu at the corresponding date in 1897. The increase last week was 3,821,000 bu. For the same week last year the decrease was 2,179,000 bu.

Reports of damage to the wheat crop in the Argentine seem to be corroborated by later advices.

With the closing of navigation comes a heavy demand on railroads for cars to ship grain. The scarcity of cars is so great that it affects values.

The Board of Trade in this city will not hold sessions on Saturday and Monday next. The members can therefore eat their turkeys in peace, as no one can put up the market on them while they're not looking. This secures peace on the board and good will to all operators.

**Broomhall cables:** "Russian port stocks of wheat on December 1, 1898, were 14,690,000 bu, compared with 12,440,000 bu on November 1 and 13,100,000 bu on December 1, 1897. An official report estimates the area seeded up to December 1 to be 75 per cent of an average crop of grain, sown under satisfactory and good conditions."

**Aelaide, Austria, cables** that the wheat yield is short, but quality good. The new Zealand wheat crop is estimated to be 10,800,000 bu, compared with 5,826,523 bu last year.

The stocks of wheat in Odessa, by the latest estimate, were 8,900,000 bu, and at all Russian ports 16,000,000 bu, against about 13,000,000 bu last year, and 20,000,000 bu the preceding year.

### DETROIT PRODUCE MARKET.

December 22, 1898.

**FLOUR.**—Quotations on jobbers' lots in barrels are as follows:  
Straights.....\$3.50  
Clear.....3.25  
Patent Michigan.....4.00  
Low Grade.....3.00  
Rye.....3.25

**CORN.**—The visible supply in the United States and Canada is now 18,153,000 bu, an increase of 307,000 bu the past week. Quotations are as follows: No. 2, 36c; new No. 3, 34c; new No. 4, 33c; No. 2 old yellow, 40c; No. 3, 39c; new No. 3 yellow, 36c; new No. 4 yellow, 34c.

**OATS.**—The visible supply of this grain on Saturday last in the United States and Canada was 6,009,000 bu, as compared with 5,361,000 the previous week, and 11,383,000 at the corresponding date in 1897. Quotations are as follows: No. 2 white, 30c; No. 3 white, 29c per bu. Market firm.

**RYE.**—The visible supply of this grain on Saturday last in the United States and Canada was 1,126,000 bu, as compared with 1,228,000 bu the previous week, and 3,645,000 bu at the corresponding date in 1897. Market firm at 66c per bu for No. 2.

**BARLEY.**—The visible supply of this grain in the United States and Canada on Saturday last was 4,169,000 bu, as compared with 4,002,000 bu the previous week, and 4,605,000 bu at the corresponding date in 1897. Good samples at \$1 per hundred. Demand fair.

**CLOVER SEED.**—Prime is quoted at \$4.00 per bu for spot, and \$4.50 for Mch. No. 2, \$3.40@4.00 per bu. Alsike, prime, \$1.30 per bu; low grades to fair, \$2.25@3.00 per bu.

**BEANS.**—Market steady. December are

quoted at \$1.06; January at \$1.07, and February at \$1.08 per bu.

**FEED.**—Bran, \$12.00; coarse middlings, \$13.00; fine middlings, \$15.00; cracked corn, \$15.00; coarse cornmeal, \$14.00; corn and oat chop, \$13.00 per ton in jobbing lots.

**BUTTER.**—Receipts are in excess of requirements, but so far values have held firm. Creamery is quoted at 20c; fancy dairy, 15c; fair to good, 13c; low grades, 9c@10c per lb. At Elgin this week sales of creamery were at 20c@21c per lb, with 20c the ruling price. At Chicago quotations were as follows: Creameries, extras, 19c@20c; firsts, 16c@17c; seconds, 14c@15c. Dairies, extras, 16c@17c; firsts, 15c@16c; No. 2, 12c. Ladies, extras, 12c@13c. Packing stock, 12c@12 1/2c. Roll, 12c@13c.

**CHEESE.**—Market steady and unchanged at 10c@11c for best full creams. At Chicago values have advanced, and now range as follows: Young Americas, 10c@11c; twins, 9c@10c; cheddars, 9c@9 1/2c; Swiss, 9c@10c; Limburger, 5c@8 1/2c; brick, 8c@10c. The Liverpool market is quoted firm at 48s. per cwt. for finest white American cheese, and 48s. 6d. for colored.

**APPLES.**—Snow, \$3.50@4 per bbl; best water fruit, \$2.75@3 per bbl.

**DRIED APPLES.**—Evaporated, 8c@9c; dried, 4c@5c per lb.

**CELERY.**—Quoted at 25c@30c per dozen on the city markets, and 25c by dealers.

**ONIONS.**—Selling at 30c@35c per bu.

**DRESSED HOGS.**—Quoted at \$3.75@4 per cwt.

**POTATOES.**—Market unchanged. Quoted at 30c@35c per bu by dealers, and farmers receive the same price in small lots on city market. At Chicago the market is a little lower at 28c@35c. per bu.

**CABBAGE.**—Quoted at \$3.25@3.50 per ton in car lots, and \$2.50@3 per hundred from wagons.

**POULTRY.**—Live quoted as follows: Spring chickens, 6c@6 1/2c; fowls, 4c@5c; ducks, 6c@7c; geese, 6c@7c; turkeys, 8c@9c per lb. Dressed quoted 16c above those figures. At Chicago dressed are quoted as follows: Turkeys, 8c@10c per lb; chickens, 5c@6c; ducks, 6c; geese, 5c@6c per lb.

**EGGS.**—Fresh candled, 22c@23c per doz; cold storage, 16c@18c per doz. Market very firm. Small lots from wagons sell at 25c@26c.

**BALED HAY AND STRAW.**—Best timothy, in car lots, \$3.50 per ton; rye straw, \$5; wheat and oat straw, \$4.00. Bad roads have strengthened the market.

**WOOL.**—Nominal quotations in interior markets are as follows: Unwashed fine, 19c@20c; washed fine, 19c@20c; unwashed medium, 18c@20c; washed medium, 22c@25c per lb.

**HIDES.**—No change in the range of prices. Quoted as follows: No 1 green, 7c; No 2 green, 6c; No 1 cured, 9c; No 2 cured, 8c; No 1 green calf, 10c; No 2 green calf, 8c; No 1 kip, 7c; No 2 kip, 6c; sheepskins as to wool, 40c@70c; shearlings, 10c@20c.

**PROVISIONS.**—No changes have occurred since our last report. Quotations are as follows: Mess pork, \$9.75 per bbl; short cut mess, \$11; short clear, \$11; compound lard, 4c; family lard, 4c; kettle lard, 6c; smoked hams, 8c@9c; bacon, 8c@9c; shoulders, 5c; picnic hams, 5c per lb.

**COFFEE.**—Market steady and unchanged. Quotations are as follows: Roasted Rio, ordinary 9c, fair 11c; Santos, good 14c, choice 15c; Maracaibo, 20c@25c; Java, 25c@30c; Mocha, 25c@32c; package coffee sold on the equality plan on a basis of \$9.50@10.50, less 75c per 100-lb case in New York.

**OILS.**—Linseed oil and turpentine are higher; no other changes. Quotations are as follows: Raw linseed, 37c; boiled linseed, 38c, less 1c for cash; extra lard oil, 50c; No 1 lard oil, 35c; water white kerosene, 9c; fancy grade, 11c; deodorized stove gasoline, 9c; turpentine, 48c per gal in bbl lots.

**HARDWARE.**—Latest quotations are as follows: Wire nails, \$1.50; steel cut nails, \$1.45 per cwt, new card; axes, single bit, bronze, \$5; double bit, bronze, \$8.50; single bit, solid steel, \$6; double bit, solid steel, \$9.50 per doz; bar iron, \$1.35; carriage bolts, 7c to 10c per cent off list; tire bolts, 7c per cent off list; painted barbed wire, \$1.65; galvanized, \$1.95 per cwt; single and double strength glass, 80 and 15 per cent off list; sheet iron, No. 24, \$2.35 per cwt; galvanized, 75 and 10 per cent off list; No 9 annealed wire, \$1.40 rates.

### DETROIT LIVE STOCK MARKET.

#### Michigan Central Stock Yards.

Thursday, December 22, 1898.

#### CATTLE.

Receipts Thursday 331, as compared with 570 one week ago. Quality only fair. Market opened rather slow on account of the weather, but with the light receipts trade was fairly active and all sold at about last week's prices. \$5 was top price to-day for a good steer weighing 1,400 lbs, and \$4.70 for steers weighing 1,230 lbs; but the bulk changed hands at prices ranging from \$3 to \$4.25; old cows and common thin butchers, \$2 to \$2.75; bulls, light to good butchers, \$2.75 to \$3.40; feeders and stockers, \$3 to \$3.85. Veal calves fairly active at \$5 to \$6 per 100 lbs. Milch cows and springers unchanged; bulk changed hands at prices ranging from \$35 to \$45 each.

Coates sold Mason & F 6 steers av 628 at \$2.40 and 2 old cows av 1,015 at \$2. Hale sold Fitzpatrick 9 mixed butchers av 821 at \$3.60.

Major sold same 3 mixed butchers av 860 at \$2.60.

Harger sold same 7 mixed butchers av 861 at \$3, and 4 steers av 1,082 at \$4.

Burden sold Kammern 3 mixed butchers av 713 at \$3.50 and a steer weighing 600 at \$2.25.

Mayers sold Caplis & Co 4 mixed butchers av 821 at \$3.55, and a cow weighing 1,020 at \$2.50.

Lanning sold same 3 steers av 1,066 at \$4.25, a cow weighing 1,200 at \$3 and 1 weighing 1,130 at \$2.30.

Sharp sold Sullivan a steer weighing 1,230 at \$4.70, a bull weighing 1,380 at \$3, a heifer weighing 320 at \$4.25, and a cow weighing 1,250 at \$3.50.

Sweet & N sold Sullivan a steer weighing 850 at \$4.25, and a bull weighing 1,200 at \$2.25.

Weitzel sold Cook 6 mixed butchers av

980 at \$3.90 and a bull to Sullivan weighing 600 at \$3.40.

Murphy sold Magee 3 steers av 816 at \$4 and 7 mixed butchers av 700 at \$3.50.

Erwin sold David 4 stockers av 585 at \$3.25.

Gamber sold Mich Beef Co 3 mixed butchers av 710 at \$3.55.

Howe sold Kammern 3 mixed butchers av 966 at \$2.60.

Donnegan & R sold Sullivan a steer weighing 830 at \$3.65.

Kenter & F sold same 7 feeders av 768 at \$3.70.

Taggart sold Caplis & Co 3 mixed butchers av 883 at \$3.70.

Robb sold same 6 steers and heifers av 1,000 at \$4.25.

Sweet & N sold Regan 3 mixed butchers av 693 at \$3.

Roe & Holmes sold Robinson 3 mixed butchers av 830 at \$3.80, 5 do av 834 at \$3.80, 4 do av 965 at \$3, 2 cows av 1,050 at \$2.50 and 1 do weighing 1,080 at \$3, 2 oxen to Mich Beef Co av 1,750 at \$3.25 and a steer weighing 1,400 at \$5.

Plum sold Sullivan 2 feeders av 855 at \$3.75, a bull to Mason & F weighing 1,990 at \$3.20, 2 steers av 620 at \$3.25, 2 do av 755 at \$3.35 and a cow weighing 820 at \$2.30.

Young sold Sullivan 9 steers av 790 at \$3.85.

McMullen sold Mich Beef Co 2 cows av 960 at \$2.60 and 2 cows av 1,030 at \$3.75.

Clark & B sold Kammern 3 mixed butchers av 666 at \$3.25.

Winslow sold Mason & F 6 cows (canners), av 1,936 at \$2.

Estep sold Cook 5 steers av 990 at \$3.90.

Hawley sold Sullivan 2 steers av 1,175 at \$4.10.

Erwin sold same 12 steers av 711 at \$3.60.

Spicer & M sold Kammern a cow weighing 1,000 lbs at \$3.50, 1 do weighing 990 at \$2.50, a stocker to Sullivan weighing 470 at \$3.35 and 4 mixed butchers to Cook av 692 at \$3.40.

Kenter & F sold Regan 14 mixed butchers av 632 at \$3.35.

Harger sold Sullivan 2 bulls av 1,300 at \$3.25.

Patrick sold Caplis & Co 2 mixed butchers av 790 at \$3.40.

**SHEEP AND LAMBS.**

Receipts Thursday, 1,083, as compared with 1,171 one week ago. Market rather slow. Later trade was fairly active with sales at about last Friday's prices. Range of prices: Good to choice lambs, \$4.75 to \$5; light to good and bulky lots, \$4.40 to \$4.65; yearling and good mixed lots, \$3.90 to \$4.50; fair to good butchers, \$3 to \$3.90; common, \$2.50 to \$2.75.

Sharp sold Mich Beef Co 14 lambs av 90 at \$4.90.

J. H. Howe sold Moore 10 common av 83 at \$2.50.

Thorn sold Mich Beef Co 45 lambs av 71 at \$4.75 and 27 mixed av 76 at \$3.

Sweet sold same 18 lambs av 87 at \$4.65.

Harger sold same 76 av 85 at \$5.

Donnegan & R sold same 23 mixed av 80 at \$3.35.

Robb sold Sullivan Beef Co 32 mixed av 82 at \$3.75 and 64 lambs to Mich Beef Co av 84 at \$4.90.

C. M. Belhimer sold Fitzpatrick 43 most lambs, av 98 at \$4.40.

Belhimer & K sold Mich Beef Co 44 lambs av 78 at \$4.20.

J. D. Thorburn sold same 21 sheep av 94 at \$3.75 and 18 lambs av 85 at \$6.90.

McHugh sold Fitzpatrick 46 sheep and lambs av 95 at \$4.35.

McMullen sold Mich Beef Co 36 sheep and lambs av 95 at \$4.25.

Roe & Holmes sold Robinson 14 lambs av 73 at \$4.85 and 20 do av 65 at \$4.60.

J. Weitzel sold Monaghan 40 mixed av 78 at \$3.75.

W. Haley sold same 57 lambs av 75 at \$4.65.

Roe & Holmes sold Sullivan Beef Co 20 mixed av 90 at \$3.15.

**HOGS.**

Receipts Thursday, 5,956, as compared with 6,359 one week ago. Market fairly active and steady with last Friday's prices. Range: Fair to good mixed butchers, \$3.25 to \$3.35; bulk at \$3.27 1/2 to \$3.32 1/2; good pigs and light yorkers, \$3.15 to \$3.22 1/2; light pigs, \$3 to \$3.10; stags one-third off; roughs, \$2.50 to \$2.75.

Sharp sold Parker, Webb & Co 39 av 172 at \$3.25.

Estep sold same 61 av 171 at \$3.30.

Ansty sold same 162 av 153 at \$3.25.

Gifford sold same 15 av 134 at \$3.25.

J. W. McMullen sold same 129 av 161 and 69 av 168 at \$3.22 1/2.

Taggart sold same 77 av 158 at \$3.



Lomason sold R. S. Webb 75 av 197 at \$3.35.  
Burden sold same 72 av 169 at \$3.27½.  
H. H. Howe sold same 51 av 190 at \$3.32½.  
Burden sold same 90 av 171 at \$3.27½.

Friday, December 23, 1898.  
CATTLE.

Receipts Friday, 172, as compared with 54 one week ago. Market fairly active; fair to good handy butchers unchanged; canners and common thin cows dull and lower. \$4.60 was top price to-day for 2 good butcher steers av 1,165 lbs, balance as noted. Veal calves and milch cows unchanged.

Sutton sold Sullivan a bull weighing 1,590 at \$3.40, a steer weighing 1,200 at \$4.40, a cow weighing 960 at \$3.00 and 4 mixed butchers (canners) to Mason & F av 1,222 at \$3.40.  
Hyne sold Spicer & Merritt 5 stockers av 850 at \$3.00 and 4 mixed do av 395 at \$2.60.

Brown sold Mason & F 3 canners av 750 at \$1.25 and a bull to Mich Beef Co weighing 1,630 at \$3.25.

Judson sold Clancey 2 cows av 1,105 at \$2.65, a bull to Mich Beef Co weighing 1,570 at \$3.25 and a steer to Sullivan weighing 710 at \$3.40.

Lovewell sold Caplis & Co 2 steers av 1,165 at \$4.00, 2 mixed butchers av 850 at \$2.80, 3 canners (canners) to Mason & F av 850 at \$2.25 and 1 do weighing 720 at \$1.50.

Carman sold Sullivan 5 heifers av 500 at \$3.25, 3 bulls av 470 at \$2.70 and a steer weighing 570 at \$3.40, 6 heifers to Kamm- men av 540 at \$3.10, 3 cows to Mason & F av 826 at \$2.00 and 1 do weighing 870 at \$2.25.

Shook sold Marx 3 mixed butchers av 680 at \$3.25, a cow weighing 950 at \$2.85 and 5 steers to Sullivan av 914 at \$3.80.

Spicer & M sold Sullivan 3 stockers av 593 at \$3.40, 10 mixed butchers to Kamm- men av 716 at \$3.55, 3 do av 873 at \$3.00 and a calf weighing 430 at \$2.50.

Weeks sold Mason & F 2 cows av 965 at \$2.50 and a steer weighing 680 at \$3.50.

Roe & Holmes sold Sullivan 6 steers av 1,126 at \$4.25, 1 do weighing 960 at \$4.00, 1 do weighing 700 at \$3.40, 2 heifers av 720 at \$3.65, a fat cow weighing 1,300 at \$4.00, 7 mixed av 871 at \$3.40 and 5 stockers av 660 at \$3.40.

O'Hara sold Mason & F 2 cows (canners) av 980 at \$2.00 and 2 butchers to Caplis & Co. av 830 at \$3.40.

Vaughn Bros sold Sullivan 10 mixed av 862 at \$3.10.

#### SHEEP AND LAMBS.

Receipts Friday, 592; one week ago, 502. Market active and unchanged from above quotations. All sold, closing firm.

O'Hara sold Mich Beef Co 40 lambs av 95 at \$5.00.

Geo Brown sold same 16 lambs av 90 at \$5.00 and 32 do av 40 at \$2.50.

L. D. Lovewell sold Monaghan 39 com- mon av 80 at \$2.25.

F. Leach sold Mich Beef Co 14 lambs av 80 at \$4.90.

Garey Bros sold same 32 sheep av 89 at \$2.75 and 63 lambs av 77 at \$4.75.

E. Jedele sold Sutton 26 sheep av 98 at \$3.00 and 30 lambs av 93 at \$3.00.

Wm Underwood sold Mich Beef Co 33 lambs av 80 at \$4.75.

Shelton sold same 52 lambs av 72 at \$4.80.

Spicer & M sold same 37 lambs av 70 at \$4.80.

Purdy sold same 110 mixed av 85 at \$4.25.

Roe & Holmes sold Sutton 36 lambs av 77 at \$4.80, 24 do to Mich Beef Co av 65 at \$4.60 and 32 do to Campbell av 86 at \$5.00.

Judson sold Mich Beef Co 10 yearlings av 93 at \$4.00.

#### HOGS.

Receipts Friday, 4,374, as compared with 5,723 one week ago. Market active; all sold early at strong yesterday's prices, closing steady.

Roe & Holmes sold Hammond, S & Co 120 av 188, 118 av 181, 81 av 186 and 76 av 178 at \$3.35.

Bullen sold same 84 av 212 at \$3.30.

Stage & Cassey sold same 76 av 174 at \$3.35.

Poberts & S sold same 80 av 179 at \$3.32½.

F. W. Horner sold same 87 av 187 at \$3.32½.

Wade sold same 126 av 162 at \$3.25.

Reed sold same 56 av 221 at \$3.32½ and 68 av 126 at \$3.12½.

Weeks sold same 27 av 124 at \$3.15 and 62 av 194 at \$3.30.

Roe & Holmes sold same 62 av 165 at \$3.27½, 153 av 145 and 43 av 168 at \$3.25.

Lovewell sold same 89 av 139 at \$3.22½.

Fox & Bishop sold same 132 av 200 and 17 av 264 at \$3.35.

McClain sold same 37 av 177 at \$3.35.

Leach sold same 77 av 196 at \$3.32½.

Spicer & M sold same 45 av 189 at \$3.35.

Stecker sold same 133 av 169 at \$3.32½.

McCloughrey sold same 63 av 137 at \$3.17½.

Eddy sold same 99 av 184 at \$3.30.

Garey Bros & S sold Parker, Webb & Co 153 av 215 and 12 av 215 at \$3.32½.

O'Hara sold same 30 av 204 at \$3.30.

Carman sold same 168 av 172 at \$3.30.

Purdy Bros sold same 26 av 146 at \$3.20.

Eddy sold same 159 av 178 and 73 av 180 at \$3.30.

McKiggon sold same 100 av 175 at \$3.30.

Sprague sold same 55 av 178 at \$3.30.

Luckie sold same 159 av 194 at \$3.30.

Discher sold same 32 av 199 at \$3.30.

Hyne sold same 43 av 156 at \$3.28.

Bertler sold same 117 av 176 at \$3.30.

Miller Bros sold same 33 av 219 at \$3.30.

Hauser sold same 68 av 186 and 76 av 184 at \$3.35.

Underwood sold same 114 av 197 at \$3.35.

McMullen sold same 107 av 200 at \$3.35.

Talmage sold same 68 av 192 at \$3.30.

Brown sold Parker, Webb & Co 47 av 176 at \$3.30.

Richmond sold same 133 av 174 at \$3.30.

McMullen sold same 85 av 196 at \$3.35.

Jedele sold same 47 av 150 at \$3.25.

Brewer & B sold Sullivan 132 av 119 at \$3.35.

Spicer & M sold same 59 pigs av 98 at \$3.05.

Carman sold same 48 pigs av 80 and 46 av 104 at \$3.

McKiggon sold same 51 pigs av 111 at \$2.05.

Bullen sold same 38 pigs av 94 at \$3.

Vaughn Bros sold same 61 pigs av 91 at \$3.

Fox & Bishop sold same 88 pigs av 108 at \$3.

Brewer & B sold Hammond, S & Co 70 av 193 and 147 av 192 at \$3.35.

#### OUR BUFFALO LETTER.

East Buffalo, December 22, 1898.

Cattle.—Receipts of cattle on Monday last were 3,938, as compared with 5,060 the same day last week. Shipments were 2,552, as compared with 3,960 the previous week.

Monday there was a fair supply of good fat steers and good butchers' cattle, which sold at steady values as compared with the close of last week, while medium grades, plain coarse steers and common cows ruled slow and lower. Stockers and feeders were in light supply, and well-bred stock were lower and very dull.

Good to choice steers sold at a range of \$4.30 to \$5.40; butchers' steers, light to fat smooth lots, \$4.25 to \$4.65; ordinary to fair, \$3.90 to \$4.10; heifers, \$3.35 to \$4.60; cows, common to choice, \$1.85 to \$3.65; bulls, \$2.75 to \$4.15.

Tuesday trade was dull and market ruled lower for all but prime heavy steers. Wednesday the market was dull and easy, especially for common stuff, medium and fair grades; prime cattle steady. Quota-

tions were as follows: Export and shipping steers, 1450 to 1520 lbs, \$3.30 to \$5.50; prime to choice steers, 1300 to 1400 lbs, \$4.90 to \$5.25; good to choice fat steers, 1250 to 1300 lbs, \$4.60 to \$4.80; good to choice fat smooth

steers, 1050 to 1200 lbs, \$4.25 to \$4.55; green coarse and rough fat steers, 1050 to 1400 lbs, \$4.00 to \$4.40. Butchers and native cat-

tle—Fat smooth dry fed steers, 1050 to 1150 lbs, \$4.25 to \$4.50; fat smooth dry fed light steers, 900 to 1,000 lbs, \$4.15 to \$4.25; light to fair dry fed steers, \$4.10 to \$4.25; green steers, thin old, fattened to 1000 to 1300 lbs, \$4.00 to \$4.25; fair to good half fat steers, 900 to 1000 lbs, \$3.90 to \$4.00; choice smooth fat heifers, \$1.50 to \$4.30; fair to good fat heifers, \$3.75 to \$4.25; light, thin, half fat heifers, \$3.35 to \$3.65; mixed lots, fair to choice quality

fat cows and heifers, \$3.25 to \$3.65; choice to extra smooth well fattened butcher cows, \$3.40 to \$3.90; fair to good butcher cows, \$2.50 to \$3.25; common old shelly cows, \$1.85 to \$2.25.

Bulls and oxen—Export weight bulls, fat and smooth, \$3.75 to \$4.15; good, fat, smooth, handy weight butchers' bulls, \$3.40 to \$3.65; fair to good sausage bulls, \$2.50 to \$3.25; stock bulls, common to extra, \$2.75 to \$3.25; fat, smooth young oxen to good lots fit for export, \$4.25 to \$4.50; fair to fairly good partly

fattened young oxen, \$3.75 to \$4.00; old com- mon and poor oxen, \$2.50 to \$3.50. Native

stockers and feeders—Feeding steers, good style weight and extra quality, \$3.90 to \$4.20; feeding steers, common to only fair quality, \$3.40 to \$3.75; good quality yearling stock steers and calves, \$3.75 to \$4.05; stock heifers, common to choice, \$2.75 to \$3.00; stock steers, cull grades and throw-outs, \$3.00 to \$3.25.

Thursday the market was steady and unchanged.

Sheep.—Receipts of sheep and lambs on Monday last were 14,800, as compared with 13,000 the previous week. Shipments were 10,200, as compared with 13,200 the previous week. Monday the market opened slow at 10c decline on lambs, while sheep held steady to firm. The best lambs sold at \$5.30 to \$5.50, and best sheep at \$4.40 to \$4.60, a decline of 10c on the best lambs as com-

pared with the previous Monday, while sheep showed no change. Tuesday the market ruled fairly active at the closing prices of the previous day, but became slower before the close. A good many

were carried over unsold, mostly Canada. Wednesday sheep were weak and in rather poor demand, but lambs were a dime higher for good heavyweights. Common

lambs sold as low as \$3.75, prime bringing \$5.40. Sales were mostly at \$4.75 to \$5.15. Yearlings sold at \$4.00 to \$4.50. Common to good sheep sold at \$2.50 to \$4.00, chiefly at \$3.35 to \$4.00 for westerns. A few prime sheep brought \$4.10 to \$4.15.

Sheep Thursday were very dull; good to choice native and Canada lambs, \$5.25 to \$5.40; culls to fair \$4.50 to \$5; culls to best sheep, \$2.50 to \$4.40; fully half of light supply unsold at noon.

Hogs.—Receipts of hogs on Monday were 28,690, as compared with 30,180 for the same day last week. Shipments were 16,910, as compared with 17,100 for the same day last week. The market on Monday

opened at the same range of prices as prevailed at the close of the week, ruled stronger later in the day, and finally closed at an advance of 5c, but about 2½c below the price of the previous Monday.

The range on Yorkers was \$3.35 to \$3.45; prime heavy, \$3.50 to \$3.55; choice mediums, \$3.45 to \$3.47½; mixed packing, \$3.40 to \$3.45; pigs, \$3.30 to \$3.35. Tuesday the market opened steady, but weakened later on pigs and Yorkers, closing slow. Wednesday the

market ruled slow, but firm to strong for good weights. Yorkers generally sold at \$3.40, with light at \$3.30 to \$3.35; pigs, \$3.25 to \$3.30; bulk, \$3.25; mixed packers, \$3.45 to \$3.50; choice to prime heavy, \$3.50 to \$3.75; roughs, \$3.30 to \$3.10; stags, \$2.50 to \$2.75. The market closed steady with the bulk of the offer-

ings sold.

Thursday the market ruled slow; sales were made at the following range: Medium heavy, \$3.40; few, \$3.50; Yorkers, \$3.35 to \$3.40; light, \$3.30 to \$3.35; pigs, \$3.20 to \$3.25; stags and roughs, \$2.40 to \$3.10; closing easy at noon.

#### THE CHICAGO MARKET.

Chicago, December 22, 1898.

Cattle.—The receipts of cattle in this market last week were 33,408, as compared with 54,060 the previous week, and 39,348 for the same week last year. At the opening on Monday good to fancy beef

cattle sold actively and generally 10c higher. The common natives ruled about steady, while Texas cattle sold 10c lower. No fancy Christmas beefs were offered.

Native steers averaging 800 to 1,500 lbs sold at \$3.85 to \$5.95, bulk, \$4.75 to \$5.50; fed Western steers, \$3.75 to \$5.50; corn-fed Texas, 1,050 to 1,094 lbs, \$4.10 to \$4.50; distillery-fed Texas, 957 lbs, \$4.25; straight Texas steers, 773 to 1,154 lbs, \$3.10 to \$4.40, bulk, \$3.50 to \$3.85. A load of 1,248-lb distillery bulls sold at \$3.85. Seven extra fine 1,100-lb heifers sold at \$5.40.

Tuesday, except for some choice cattle which held firm, the market was rather weak, but was about steady with Mon-

day. Receipts have largely exceeded those of last week. Wednesday good to choice matured beefs were largely 5 to 10c higher, with an active demand from dressed beef concerns and eastern ship-

pers. Sales were on a basis of \$3.80 to \$4.50 for the common grades up to \$5.60 for

good to prime cattle, with extra fine beefs selling at \$5.65 to \$5.75. No really good cattle found purchasers below \$5, choice steers selling, quality considered, at the best prices of the year. Canning cows sold at \$2.62 to \$2.75, and few prime heifers brought \$4.50 to \$4.75. Bulls were steady and calves sold at \$4.06 to \$4.75, few going lower than \$5. About everything was sold, and the gen-

eral market closed firm. Up to and including Wednesday of this week receipts have been 21,188, as compared with 27,160 for the same days last week.

Thursday estimated receipts were 6,000. The best grades were 5 to 10c higher; others steady; steers, \$3.90 to \$4; cows and heifers, \$2.60 to \$4.75; Texas steers, \$3.30 to \$4.60; stockers and feeders, \$2.80 to \$4.30.

Sheep.—Receipts of sheep in this market the past week were 60,395, as compared with 67,825 the previous week, and 64,399 for the corresponding week in 1897. Mon-

day the market opened weak, and generally 10 to 15c lower, especially on lambs. Heavy sheep were neglected. Bucks, thin

old ewes, and other trash sold at \$2.25 to \$2.50; market ewes, \$3.35 to \$3.80; market weth-

ers, \$4.40 to \$4.50; yearlings, \$4.25 to \$4.50. Common market lambs, \$4.40 to \$4.50; something better than common, \$4.75 to \$4.90; fair to good, \$5.05 to \$5.15; tops, \$5.20 to \$5.40. The day

was rainy, and this had a good deal to do with the weak market, as buyers did not care to buy so much moisture and dirt in the fleeces. Tuesday the market was

again dull and values weak. Some held over stock sold higher because their fleeces were dryer, which accounted for the difference. There was little demand

for heavy sheep or lambs, and limited trading was in the handweights; good ewes sold at \$3.50; good to choice muttons, \$3.50 to \$3.80; top lambs, \$5.15; other good lambs, \$4.75 to \$5; yearlings around \$4.25.

Wednesday trade was fairly active, with prices steady on sheep and a trifle higher on good, dry lambs or any kind of a lamb that showed quality. Only a few good

sheep or lambs here, buyers satisfying their wants with the second-class stock, consisting mainly of ewes and common

wethers. Bucks, old ewes, and other trash sold around \$2.25 to \$2.75; ewes, \$3.45 to \$3.65; wethers, \$3.85 to \$4.30; yearlings, \$4.25 to \$4.50; common market lambs, \$4.40 to \$4.50; mediums, \$4.75 to \$5; fair to good, \$5.10 to \$5.15; tops, \$5.20 to \$5.40. Receipts up to and including

Wednesday this week, were 35,968, as compared with 45,269 for the same days last week.

Hogs.—The receipts in this market the past week were 261,670, as compared with 282,344 the previous week, and 166,149 for the corresponding week in 1897. Monday

the market opened active, the bulk of the hogs selling strong to a trifle higher, closing rather easier, however, yet about everything except speculators' lots were

disposed of. Packers were the leading buyers, the shipping orders going to other

markets. Rough packers, \$3.15 to \$3.25; prime packers and good heavy mixed, \$3.35 to \$3.40; prime mediums, selected butcher-weights (mostly barrows), \$3.40 to \$3.45; two or three loads, \$3.50; light mixed bacon-weights, say, 140 up to 220

lbs, to average 180 lbs or thereabouts, \$3.30 to \$3.35, largely \$3.32½. Assorted light of 100 to 150 lbs, \$3.35 to \$3.40. Pigs of 100 lbs average, over and under, \$3.10 to \$3.25. Tues-

day most sales were made at about 5c below the prices of the previous day. While receipts were lighter, the wet weather

was against the market. Wednesday the market presented no new features; the demand was active, prices steady to strong at first, but later closed rather

easier, yet about everything was sold. Rough and common, \$3.15 to \$3.25; prime packers and good mixed, \$3.30 to \$3.40; prime mediums, selected butcher-weights and

assorted shippers, \$3.40 to \$3.45. Light mixed bacon-weights, say 140 to 150 up to 220-lb weights, to average 170 to 180 lbs, sold largely

at \$3.32½, a few at \$3.30. Light of 130 to 150-lb weights, \$3.20 to \$3.32½. Little pigs of 100 lbs, over and under, \$3.10 to \$3.15. Up to and including Wednesday of this week

receipts were 115,000, as compared with 146,400 for the same days last week. The drop in receipts has materially helped the

market.

Estimated receipts Thursday, 28,000; market ruled quiet but firm at Wednesday's prices.

It cost the war department \$513,800 to send Spanish soldiers home from Cuba, and it is expected that to return the 15,000 Spaniards garrisoning the Philippines will cost as much more.

## HOGS

## LITTLE GIANT HARNESS RIVETER.

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Fredericktown, Knox Co., Ohio.

N. B.—If you wish to inquire as to the merit of riveter and proof of above statement, write to postmaster of this town.

A Canadian paper says that Dr. McEachran, while in England recently, discussed with the British Minister of Agriculture the exclusion of Canadian live cattle from inland British markets. The doctor asked the minister if there was any prospect of the embargo on live cattle being removed, and the reply was: "I fear not; the country would not stand it." There seems to be no prospect, Dr. McEachran thinks, of the removal of the embargo. It appears that the regulations referred to, nominally for the purpose of preventing the spread of disease, are really intended to protect British farmers by shutting out foreign cattle.

Counsel for the plaintiff in a certain case made use during an argument of the word "brougham."

"Excuse my interrupting you, Mr. Brief," said the judge, "but in the society in which I am accustomed to move we pronounce the word 'broom,' and so save a syllable."

During his summing up the judge had occasion to use the word "omni-bus."

"Excuse me, m'lud," broke in counsel, "but in the society in which I am accustomed to move we pronounce that word 'bus,' and so save two syllables."—London Answers.

The young man arose from the car seat and the fat lady was in a twitter at once.

"Oh, dear me, sir, how very kind of you. I really don't feel as if I ought to take your seat. Gentlemen are so unselfish. Do you really insist?"



## Miscellaneous.

### THE EXILE'S HYMN.

(From the Spanish of Jose Maria Heredia, who was born at Santiago de Cuba, 1803, and who died in Mexico, 1839).

Fair land of Cuba! on thy shores are seen  
Life's far extremes of noble and of mean;  
The world of sense in matchless beauty  
Dressed,  
And nameless horrors hid within thy  
breast,  
Ordained of Heaven, the fairest flower of  
earth.  
False to thy gifts and reckless of thy  
birth!

The tyrant's clamor and the slave's sad  
cry,  
With the sharp lash in insolent reply—  
Such are the sounds that echo on thy  
plains,  
While virtue faints and vice unblushing  
reigns.  
Rise, and to power a daring heart oppose!  
Confront with death these worse than  
death-like woes,  
Unfailing valor chains the flying fate;  
Who dares to die shall win the conquer-  
or's state!

We, too, can leave a glory and a name  
Our children's children shall not blush to  
claim;  
To the far future let us turn our eyes,  
And up to God's still unpolluted skies!  
Better to bare the breast and undismayed  
Meet the sharp vengeance of the hostile  
blade

Than on the couch of helpless grief to lie,  
And in one death a thousand deaths to  
die.  
Fear'st thou to bleed? O better in the  
strife  
From patriot wounds to pour the gushing  
life,  
Than let it creep inglorious through the  
veins  
Benumbed by sin and agony and chains!

What hast thou, Cuban?  
Life itself resign—  
Thy very grave is insecurely thine!  
Thy blood, thy treasure, poured like tropic  
rain  
From tyrant hands to feed the soil of  
Spain.

If it be true that nations still must bear  
The crushing yoke, the wasting fetters  
wear—

If to the people this be Heaven's decree,  
To clasp their shame, nor struggle to be  
free,  
From truth so base my heart indignant  
turns.

With freedom's frenzy all my spirit burns,  
That rage which ruled the Roman's soul  
of fire,  
And filled thy heart, Columbia's patriot  
sire!

Cuba! thou still shalt rise, as pure, as  
bright  
As the first air—as full of living light;  
Free as the waves that foam around thy  
strands,  
Kissing thy shores and curling o'er thy  
sands!

### THE LOVER'S QUEST.

BY ERNEST GLANVILLE.

Author of "The Lost Heiress," "The Possicker,"  
"A Fair Colonist," "The Golden Rock," &c.

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(CONTINUED)

SYNOPSIS OF PREVIOUS CHAPTERS.

Chapters I. to V.—Miles Venning, junior partner in the house of Lorimer & Co., Birmingham, receives a large order for rifles and ammunition to be delivered by a trusty agent at Zanzibar. The order is signed "R. Mark Sterndale," which name reminds him of an acquaintance he struck up with a young girl of that name years ago and her father whom he had lost sight of. He decides to deliver the goods in person in the hope of meeting them again. At Zanzibar the rifles are taken possession of by a man named Stoffel, and Miles accepts the hospitality of an Arab called Abdol. He becomes suspicious and concludes he has been trapped. By threats Abdol forces him to sign an order for arms on his own firm. He seeks means of escape, but the servant assigned him, Hans, tells him there is no chance and he is shown a caged tiger that is put on the track of escaped slaves.

Chapters V. to XV.—After alarming adventures he resolves to escape, enlists Hans in the work and they effect a daring capture of Miles' rifle and a supply of cartridges. They make their escape in the night, but the following night are overtaken by the tiger and slay the beast in a desperate encounter. They reach Mozambique and Miles cables his firm, countermanding the order for arms. Supplied with necessities, they make their way to a Portuguese outpost on the Zambesi. Learning that Stoffel's men have again located them they seize a canoe and drop down the river. After several skirmishes with their pursuers they succeed in eluding them, only to encounter a menacing torrent near the river's mouth. They steer their skiff into an alcove in the cliff, whence they escape by means of a tendril which hung from the top of the rock. Finding themselves on a high and rugged island Miles is obliged to descend another cliff by means of a rope ladder, swim the river, pilfer a canoe and return for Hans and their supplies. Landing they discover a great camp, and among the officers they descry Stoffel and the Arab chief.

Chapters XV. to XXVI.—In an effort to discover the plans of his enemies Miles is captured and condemned to die. He is stripped and bound to a stake on a small island surrounded by stagnant pools full of crocodiles. After a terrible night he is rescued and nursed back to life by Hans, who reports that Stoffel has gone into the Matabele country to plan an attack upon the whites. They follow in hope of assisting the latter. A storm drives them into a deserted stronghold where they are attacked in the night. The attacking party is repulsed and Miles finds an English

youth at the entrance who had apparently fainted during the struggle. The frail youth is pressed into service and the three succeed in resisting the subsequent attacks of the besiegers. They discover that the supposed youth is a young girl who tells them how she adopted that guise for the purpose of making her escape from her father's house, her father remaining to defend his property. She suggests that they seek the house, and accordingly they desert the stronghold. After numerous adventures and trials they reach the house, only to find the father gone and the Arab chief and a band of Zulus in possession. They are sheltered for the night and in the morning Miles learns that Stoffel and the Arab have parted company because of a disagreement regarding the spoils. The chief is therefore preparing to defend the place against Stoffel's men and Miles and Hans become trusted allies. Miles displays ingenuity in planning defenses and the Kaffir forces are twice repulsed. The chief then plans to capture Stoffel's camp and sends two bodies of twenty-five men each to surprise the enemy, leaving Miles in charge of the defenses. Miles, in the meantime, learns that the young girl is Miss Laura Sterndale, the hope of meeting whom had caused him to leave England. Also that her father is a prisoner in the hands of Stoffel, who is sometimes called Groote Adriaan.

### CHAPTER XXVI.

"Who calls?" said Miles, going to the wall, and trying in vain to pierce the darkness.

"Him they call Groote Adriaan, your friend."

"It is he," she cried. "Adriaan, is my father with you?"

"My Gott!" came clearly a sharp exclamation; then, after a pause, "Is that Miss Wentworth?"

"Yes; oh, tell me; my father—is he safe?"

"He is, and near," came the solemn reply.

"Ah," she cried, "wait, I will come."

"Stay," said Miles, sternly. "If you make a movement to leave this place our lives will be lost."

"But Adriaan is our friend."

"Is he?" said Miles, grimly. "What of these warriors? Look at them."

The men nearest were muttering to each other, and several with assegais in their right hand had drawn near. They were suspicious and alarmed.

"If you be a friend," said Miles, "say what you have to say quickly, and be careful not to approach nearer than you are."

Then, in the few Zulu words he had picked up, he told the men to watch and be ready.

"Englander, we are your friends. All white men should support each other. We are here to save you. I know that some of your men have gone off with the fighting chiefs and that thief of an Arab. Make a plan for us to come in."

"What conditions do you make?"

"No conditions. Why talk of such things when our sole purpose is to save your lives? Will you help us?"

"Yes," she cried. "Yes, if you promise to spare the lives of the men here, and let them go."

"That was my intention, Miss. Tell them so." Then, speaking in Zulu, he appealed in the men to give in.

"What does he say?" said Miles, as the warriors began to talk among themselves.

Again came the deep roll of the sonorous Zulu, and Miles thought he heard a movement at the outer zereba of thorns.

"He is telling them, I think," said Laura, fearfully, "that their friends have been captured."

"It is a lie," thundered Miles. "Keep back. I know you Stoffel, traitor and cut-throat," and he fired into the air.

"This is no place for you," he cried, taking her gently.

"What was that you said?" she cried. "Traitor?" Is that true?"

He stooped and kissed her.

"You must go in, dearest, and if anything happens to me, remember that this man, Adriaan, is more to be feared than any Kaffir."

He pushed her gently into the door, kissed her white horror-stricken face, then ran back to the wall.

Since he had fired there had been no sound from the outside, but now there came that same ominous rumbling they had heard the night before, and the Angoni, understanding, went back to their posts sullenly. Miles detected an air of indecision in their movements, and he dreaded that Stoffel had succeeded in his efforts to unsettle them. In such a temper he knew they would not resist a determined attack, and in his despair he bade them in English stand firm.

Nearer rolled the sound of rushing feet, and then a full report struck the ear, as of a rifle shot fired far away. A second later there came a louder boom, with a sharper ring in it, and at the sound of it the voices of the indunas calling to their regiments to halt, followed by sudden stillness.

It was the sound of Magana attacking the ambush.

The enemy had stopped in their rush. They had heard the reports, and Miles, waving his cap, cried out:

"Magana! He fights."

The Angoni took up the cry. They too knew now whence came the sound of firing, and their fears vanished. Some of them leapt to the wall, whistling shrilly; others, not to be restrained, discharged their weapons.

Again came the muffled boom, followed by faint, scattered reports.

Then Miles did a foolish thing. Taking twenty men, he leapt the wall, drew aside one of the thorn bushes, and crept up stealthily till he was warned by a subdued sound of voices, as the enemy still stood puzzling over the unaccountable sound of firing. A few steps more and he saw the gleam of white on shields, and making his men lie down, he bade them fire.

At the flash and startling roar of the volley the enemy ahead, already alarmed, yelled in terror. The Angoni thereat sprang to their feet, and with wild cries dashed forward with their assegais. At the sound every one of their comrades left behind swarmed over the wall and came leaping forward. In vain Miles stormed and shouted. Nothing would stop them. They flashed by him like dark shadows, their eyes blazing, and he heard the crash as they struck the vast, swaying force of the enemy, the crash of shields, the ring of assegais, and the low hoarse roar. He ran forward, calling to the men to turn, but he saw the Angoni at work, hurling themselves at an indistinct mass, which was falling back. Carried away by the fighting madness of his men, he dashed into the mass with a shout, slashing with his keen Arab sword, while with his rifle clasped about the center he warded off the blows.

"Yavuma!" cried his men, as they saw him at work. "Yavuma!" and, with dripping assegais and hoarse grunts, they still dashed on. Miles saw a young warrior just in advance, stop to shout his war cry, and saw the fierce yell cut short by an assegai full in his throat. He sprang by the falling man and cleft the skull of the assailant.

"Yavuma, Inkose," cried his men, and still bounding on, the column before them reeled and gave way.

But as they gave way ahead others closed in behind, and above the clamor there rolled the war song of the Matabele rallying:

"If we go forward, we die,

If we go back, we die.

Forward, my brothers, forward."

Miles saw the danger and stopped. By him were a score of Angoni, panting. From the darkness beyond came the cry of others in pursuit. He gave the cry to rally, and the men by him gave volume to the command. The cry was taken up, there was the sound of rushing feet, and some fifty men came back, wild-eyed, and drunk with killing. The others had missed their way or kept on. Helped by an induna, Miles formed them up as best he could, though a few, maddened, rushed forward against the advancing line. The Matabele slowly enclosed the little band, their shields overlapping and gleaming out of the blackness like a wall. Then they darted their throwing assegais, and rushed in with a rush of fury and triumph. For one minute there was a whirling mass of infuriated men, striking and stabbing; then the pressure of those behind forced friends and foes alike into one helpless jam wherein no man had room enough to shorten his assegai. Weapons waved aimlessly above the dense mass of black heads, and men who longed to be at each other's throats impotently glared face to face. Every wounded man who had fallen was tramped under foot, their screams rising above the fearful din.

At this crisis there came relief. A sharp burst of musketry was followed by the hoarse Angoni yell. The Matabele gave ground, and those about Miles shouted "Magana!" and struck furiously as they found room for their arms.

Next from another quarter came another volley, and a still fiercer cry, and Miles recognized the bull voice of El

Rawa leading the charge. Then the Matabele broke and swiftly melted away, and the two Angoni bands that had so opportunely arrived, found their friends who had survived the struggle, but half of them, and many of these badly hurt.

The Arab, taking command, immediately advanced towards the house, but as they drew near they were met by a heavy volley from behind the wall and saw the retreating foe swarming over the walls.

"My God," cried Miles, "they have seized the house." He took a step forward, staggered and fell heavily.

When he recovered consciousness it was daylight and he found himself in a grass hut. His eyes were heavy from a great pain in his head, so that the light hurt them, and his brain was too confused for thought. All he was actively conscious of besides the pain was a plague of flies. They covered his face, and his hand was too heavy to brush them away. But there was someone present to do this service for him, and the sharp swish of a cowtail sent the pests buzzing. For a long time he lay with a drumming in his head, looking through half-closed eyes, until at last the sound of men talking brought back to him the disaster of the night.

At the slight stir he made a cup was held to his lips, and when he had drunk he raised his head, and saw Ras el Rawa in the hut.

"Peace be with you," said the Arab. "Is all lost?" said Miles.

"We have taken their camp and they have seized ours and all it holds. We beat them sore, but, by Allah, another such victory would ruin us. I have not one hundred sound men left, and they are like locusts."

Miles groaned.

"I should not have left the camp," he muttered.

"It was madness," said the sheikh, grimly. "But it is not for me to blame, since I too undervalued the enemy. Stoffel, may Sheitan take him, watched and acted. When you are fit to move we must retreat."

"But the girl?"

"It is the will of God and the chances of war. I will henceforth have no women with the baggage. They turn the leader aside from his plan, and sow bitterness among the soldiers. I have talked with the little man, and he has told me of the lone kopje you and he held. We will march towards it this night. Men will carry you in a swing mat."

"Where is the old man?" said Miles, as he determined that he would not leave without one effort to rescue Laura if it cost him his life.

"He scouts. By Allah! old as he is, and small, he tires not, and is full of cunning."

(Continued on page 493.)

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The Arab went out, and after steaming in the hut for a couple of hours Miles crawled out into the shade of a large rock where he found a score of wounded men stretched out. There was no woman's hand here to attend them, and they sat patiently in the sun, thankful when some comrade found leisure to bring them water or a snack of feed. They greeted Miles with a salute, and one man improvised at once a song in his honor.

The place they were in bore signs of having been occupied by a large force, the grass was worn away, and there was a litter of cooking utensils about old fire-places. The whole place for about two acres was enclosed by a double thorn fence, and in the centre were two bare kopjes of huge grey boulders piled on each other, and surrounded by a stone wall.

In the afternoon Hans returned, and after making his report, prepared to skin and cook on the coals a hare he had knocked over with a kerrie. When he had finished he lit his pipe, and, with a sour look on his wrinkled face, sat down by his master.

"Hans, I am not going back to the river."

"Soh!"

"The chief moves to-night, with all the men. What will you do?"

"Dere is two bag of gold belong to me over yonder."

"And the young missy, Hans?"

"Verdom! Why did the baas not stay mit de young missy? Den she would be all right—and the gold."

"It was a mistake, old man, for which I have suffered more than any."

"The baas's head is broken, but look at these men. They have been sore hurt; many more are dead on the veldt, and the crows are black above them."

"I am not speaking of my head, Hans," said Miles, bitterly.

"So the baas is heart-sick for the missy. And Hans for the gold. Well, that duivel Stoffel have both. I crep up near the wall. They sing much, they eat and drink. The Kaffirs get drunk to-night; they will keep bad watch."

"Did you tell that to the chief?"

"Ja, sleur. He pull his beard and say nodding; but I see from his look he will not run this night."

"Thank God, if that be true."

"It was a big fight in the night, eh, baas? We came here in the dark and wait, but there was no people here. After time we hear the noise of fighting, and when we come there was two regiments of the Kaffirs, like wolves, tearing at the Angoni. Then did El Rawa shout, and we ate them up. Ja, it was a big fight, and if ole Hans had his gold he would go, for the assegai sticks deep, and his skin is too old to heal. Moreover, there is much for a man to do with gold."

Then the old chap stretched himself in the sun and slept, with his mouth open and the flies clustering about the narrow slits of his little eyes.

Towards evening the Arab came and inspected the wounded with Magana. Both men bore marks of the ferocious struggle of the night—El Rawa's mantle was slashed and stained with blood, and his right arm bandaged, while the lithe form of the Zulu was marked with wealds where he had been struck with a kerrie.

Miles rose to his feet as they came to him, for their hurts, it seemed to him, must be as grievous as his. Magana, with some dignity in his action, handed his snuff calabash to Miles, the knuckles of his fingers showing raw where he had been hit in warding off blows.

"The wounded will stop here to-night," said the Arab, "for I have heard news that Stoffel and his men drink deep, and I will attack."

"I will go with you," said Miles.

"Nay, my friend, you would grow dizzy by the way. Stay here and rest, but if the enemy attack get behind the inner wall. If the girl be living, and we succeed, I will bring her safe to you."

He took Miles by the arm, and, as if engaged in talking, led him to the inner wall, for he saw that the other had mistaken his strength.

"Listen, my friend," he said, gravely. "It is what I have learnt in dealing with warriors of this kind. When you are ill, keep from their sight and let them not see your weakness. All the day I have lain in a hut like a sick woman moping, but they know it not."

Miles sank to the ground, overcome by weakness, and that moment he realized that this fierce soldier had in him the stuff that great leaders are made of. After a time he roused him-

self, and getting a little strength in the coolness of the early evening, he went out into the camp. There were none there but the wounded, and with the strongest of these he slowly set to work, fighting against his pain and his anxiety and his fears, to attend to the suffering.

(To be continued)

#### WAS TRAVELING INCOG.

He was a retired soldier, who had seen trouble at Santiago and Montauk, and was plodding wearily to his home in Texas, somewhat the worse for the trip. Like the wandering Moor, the native loved him for the dangers he had passed, and insisted on lubricating his joints at every point on the way. When he reached a Missouri town and a Missouri judge he was not entirely sober, but his load was considerably reduced.

"Aren't you one of the famous rough riders?" asked the judge, after he had talked to him very plainly, watching him narrowly the meanwhile.

The prisoner held up his hand warningly.

"Don't give it away, judge," he said looking around in alarm.

"What do you mean?" responded the astonished judge.

"Just what I say, judge," repeated the prisoner, bending over so as to get as near as possible. "Don't give it away. I thought I had concealed my identity from the public gaze." And he looked down over himself half in pride, half in shame.

This was too much for the judge, and, bringing the prisoner nearer, so he could tell his story confidentially, so to speak, he told him to proceed.

"Well, you see, it was this way, judge," said the prisoner, with a Texas accent. "When I was mustered out and begin to see what the great American people thought of us fellows that fit into the Spaniards at Santiago I seen that if I didn't do something in self-defense purty soon I was goin' to be run for office by the party that got to me first, or that I was goin' to have the face kissed off me by a string of gals a mile long, and I concluded I'd jist git low-down, common drunk and stay that a-way till I could get to a safe place in Texas. I've escaped up to date, and if you'll not say a word, judge, but jist shove me along west, I reckon I'll git back home in fair enough shape, all things considered. What do you say, judge, is it a go?"

It was indeed, and the judge instructed a police officer to keep an eye on the distinguished prisoner and see that he was put on the next train pointing its cow-catcher toward the southwest corner of the great republic.

#### A FEW LATE ONES.

Rather Awkward.—It was evident that something in the paper amused her very much.

"You men do sometimes evolve the most complicated sentences," she said, "and the funniest part of it is that you seem to rather pride yourselves on it."

"What's the matter now?" he asked.

"Why, this article speaks of the United States 'upholding the open-door policy' when it would be so much easier to say 'holding the door open.'"

Old Folger—I've got a letter from my son out West.

Golfin—So? What's Tom doing now?

Old Folger—That's what I can't make out. He says he is engaged in the destruction of weeds. Now, that may mean he's smoking a good many cigars or that he is trying to induce some widow to make a second venture, or it may simply mean that he is doing farm work.—Boston Transcript.

"Miss Lucy," said young Mr. Pitt, with some trepidation of manner, "there is something I very much want to tell you, and the present seems to be a very good opportunity."

"Mr. Pitt," replied the young lady, who was kind of heart and wished to spare his feelings, "I know what you are about to say, and I have been expecting it for some time, but really it cannot be as you wish."

"Can't it? Why not?"

"Well, Mr. Pitt, I can only be a sister to you."

"That's just what I was about to say. You will be a sister to me, because your sister Mabel and I are engaged to be married. Mabel asked me

to break the news to you."—Pittsburg Chronicle.

True Friendship—Author—When you come to my new book I hope you will not be too severe on me.

Critic—I read it last week and my criticism was certainly not detrimental. Author—Why, I didn't see any notice of it in your column.

Critic—Of course not. We have always been friends, and for that reason I refrained from printing my candid opinion of it.—Chicago News.


The Facts in the Case.—There was trouble of some kind reported on Des-plaines street the other night and the editor told the new reporter to go over and get the details. He got them, as may be seen from his account of the affair, which was as follows:

"A man killed a dog belonging to an-

other man. The son of the man whose dog was killed proceeded to whip the man who killed the dog of the man he was the son of. The man who was the son of the man whose dog was killed was arrested on complaint of the man who was assaulted by the son of the man whose dog the man who was assaulted had killed.—Chicago News.

"Here's a beautiful little book from Graham & Co., containing suggestions for Christmas presents," said the young housekeeper. "That's a good idea, my dear," responded her lord and master, thoughtfully, "but does it—er—contain any suggestions on how to obtain the money to buy them with?"

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Lady Assistant Steward—Mary Robertson, Hesperia.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

A. E. Palmer, Kalkaska.  
Thos. Mars, Berrien Center.  
W. E. Wright, Coldwater.  
H. D. Platt, Ypsilanti.  
F. W. Redfern, Maple Rapids.  
E. A. Holden, Lansing.  
R. K. Divine, Holly.  
G. B. Horton, Fruit Ridge and Jennie Buell, Ann Arbor, ex-officio.

### THE STATE GRANGE.

The twenty-sixth session of the Michigan State Grange will go down into history as one of the most harmonious and business-like of its sessions. Bro. Horton's ability as a presiding officer never shone more brightly. Pronounced good feeling marked every session. No business was hurried through. The session was remarkable in this respect, and yet the usual number of resolutions were introduced and acted upon; but the committee reports were brief and to the point, and each contained definite resolutions put in such a way that the Grange grasped the question and intelligently voted upon it. The result of this promptness and succinctness of action gave leisure time for the members to get acquainted. We never before attended a State Grange where so much business of a sensible character was accomplished so promptly, with so little friction, and where the spirit of fraternity and sociability had greater opportunity for cultivation.

### TUESDAY.

The Grange opened in form, and after the committee on credentials had been appointed, general greetings were in order. Worthy Master Horton urged that the delegates become acquainted without the form of introduction, because so much of the value and pleasure of the meeting would come from such acquaintanceship. Bro. J. J. Woodman emphasized the fact that in any organization, no matter what its purposes, the financial foundation must be solid. He was glad to say that the National Grange was in a remarkably good financial condition, and urged that the State Grange keep absolutely free from any political entanglements. The Grange was the first farmers' organization. We meet, not to hear lawyers and politicians, but to listen to farmers. Let us all work and talk for an increase of Grange members and influence. Bro. Thomas Mars spoke of the danger of allowing politicians to enter the Grange, of the great need the people have of the Grange, especially in northern portions of the State, and urged Patrons to interest the children in the Grange, and to bring them into the meetings, especially during the Lecturer's hour. The last thought in regard to children was emphasized by Worthy Master Horton. Sister Olivia Woodman made a humorous reference to the fact that a Master and two Past Masters had spoken. She said she had never been a Master of any Grange, but nevertheless, "we women master the Masters." She would give everybody something to do in the Grange. Let each one feel that he is an important factor in the work. She spoke eloquently of the character of the people in the Grange. She noticed that at National Grange the members there comprised the standard bearers of the nation. Sister Mary A. Mayo said she was glad not only for the "white souls" in our National Grange, but for the men and women that we know, those in our own homes and our friends and neighbors who are striving in the battle of life. How are we going to help them, especially these mothers—and many of them are crying out for help? There is no place where they can get help better than in a good

Grange—a cordial, hearty Grange. We may talk about the full treasury, but the spirit and life in the Grange is what is important. Educate the children into the Grange.

All the delegates were presented by the Grange with souvenir badges.

The first order of business Tuesday afternoon was the presentation of numerous resolutions, after which Worthy Master Horton delivered his annual address. Inasmuch as liberal extracts from this address will appear in this department in the near future, we will simply briefly outline the prominent points made. Bro. Horton dwelt on the objects of the Grange, the desirability that the farmers should maintain their social standing, and suggested that education is the great promoter of this standing; at the same time business success is essential. The Grange helps in this because it gives farmers an opportunity to become students in business economy. Farmers must not neglect their duty to so work together that they may possess their proper influence, and then they will perform well their responsibilities as citizens. Organization is the practical means for attaining these ends, and the spirit of co-operation is the propelling force in such an organization. The Grange has had failures, but has profited by them, and has stood the test of time and difficulty; besides, the Grange has this distinct advantage that it is not merely a local organization.

The order in Michigan during the last year has made substantial progress. The Granges are learning self-reliance. We have tried to supply all Granges with plenty of nourishment through leaflets sent to the officers, warning and encouraging them. Deputy lecturers have been at work, and the result is that over thirty Granges have been added to the list during the past year.

The Grange the country over is in good condition, and the general feeling is that we have done well. Bro. Horton urged the continuance and enlargement of the August plenaries, and the value and necessity of pecuniary co-operation. He urged Granges to make the best use possible of trade contracts. Fire insurance has proved to be a valuable part of Grange work; Lenawee and Branch counties have perfected organizations in this State. Bro. Horton also spoke of the necessity of having strong Pomona Granges, and dwelt especially upon the desirability of having a Subordinate Grange in practically every township. He urged the broadening of the work of the country schools; also the necessity of better roads. Bro. Horton also came out strongly on the subject of taxation, reiterated his belief in the kind of work attempted by the tax statistician, and urged that the tax question is a far broader subject than can be covered in any one bill. Nevertheless, the first step is to deprive corporations of the unjust privilege of paying specific taxes. The Worthy Master commended pure food legislation, the Grange press, the Agricultural College, and Farmers' Institutes. In regard to legislation he mentioned the desirability of securing measures to prevent appeals of certain justice court cases, a county salary bill, and district instead of township libraries.

Under reports of officers, Sister Mary A. Mayo reported as Chaplain. She said that all the battles are not yet fought. The battle between right and wrong still goes on. The world needs strong men and women just as much as it did in '61; indeed, it is more necessary to be faithful in many every day things of life than to perform some great duty.

Ceres in her report said that every member owes the Grange a debt and should spread the good news of the Grange abroad. Each member should ask what she can do for the Grange.

Flora said that flowers represent life in all its beauty and its mission to comfort in time of sorrow. Beauty and value can be added to property by the use of plants and flowers.

Tuesday evening was devoted to a "love feast," which to be appreciated should have been shared.

### WEDNESDAY.

Bro. Ward, in his report as Overseer, urged that those things be made prominent in the Grange which will make farm life more attractive and improve the farmer in every way.

Sister Buell, as Pomona, suggested that the success of the Grange lies not so much with the officers as in the combined efforts of all; let the table be well supplied with fruits in their season; leave room in the daily life for

reading, and have plenty of discussion in the Grange.

Bro. Jason Woodman, as Lecturer, suggested that one great lack of the farmers is the absence of knowledge of what our legislative bodies are doing with reference to matters affecting agriculture. Farmers' organizations should be informed along this line. He urged a more complete system of subordinate Grange programs, and that occasionally leaflets be sent out by the State Lecturer; made some very practical suggestions in regard to the State lecture work.

The Executive Committee's report will also appear in part at least in this department. In general the report gave a view of their work for the year, the progress of the Grange, spoke highly of the Agricultural College work, and urged an appropriation for the Women's Department at the College.

Treasurer Strong reported \$2,379.13 in the treasury. Secretary Jennie Buell reported receipts for the year, \$5,089.97; expenses, \$4,159.23. The receipts were over a thousand dollars more than last year. During the year thirty-two Granges were organized, fifteen having new charters, and seventeen having been reorganized. No Grange surrendered its charter during the year.

Wednesday afternoon Sister Mary A. Mayo reported for the permanent committee on Women's Work. Nearly every Grange in the State has its committee on Women's Work, and they have accomplished a great deal. Have often lifted debts, and done social work. There were serious obstacles in the way of fresh air work last year, and yet, in spite of all difficulties, the results are quite satisfactory. One hundred and sixty, altogether, were given a two weeks' outing, and four children found permanent homes. Sometimes the question is asked, "Does it pay?" Well, does it pay to see a child happy? Does it pay to see a mother's face joyous? Sister Hinds, of the committee, made a report on the school part of the work. She emphasized the value of teaching patriotism in the public schools, and urged the meeting together of parents and teachers to discuss school work.

Bro. Clinton D. Smith, Director of the Experiment Station and Professor of Agriculture at the College, addressed the Grange in regard to the work of the College, and the desire of that institution to co-operate with the Grange. He described some phases of work at the College, and cordially invited the Grange to visit the institution while in Lansing.

Miss Maud Keller, Dean of the Women's Department at the College, was introduced, and gave a pleasant talk on the value of the Women's course. She said that skilled labor always had an advantage over unskilled labor. That the Women's Department at the College meets a demand. While the girls take some of the same studies as do the boys, the courses are not strictly parallel. The object of the training is for home life. Music and sewing are a part of the work. The course differs in its work from that of other institutions because it does emphasize the training for home life.

Miss Ellen Rushmore, Instructor in Domestic Economy at the College, stated that the mission of the ideal woman is to make the whole world homelike, because the home is the foundation of the State and the Nation. The course in domestic science at the College is intended to develop true womanhood. Special work must have special thought. The girls do the work themselves; they build the fire, make the bread and cake, etc., and learn the proper expenditure of money in a home.

Wednesday evening was devoted to a joint session of the State Grange and the State Association of Farmers' Clubs. The Clubs were the guests of the Grange, in Representative Hall, and were waited upon by a committee from the Grange and escorted in a body to seats reserved for them. The program was opened by a concert by the College band, and the program of the evening was varied by music from the choirs of the State Industrial School and State School for the Blind. Worthy Master Horton in his introduction said that he considered it an honor to have the privilege of calling to order so large a company of people from the farms of Michigan, who had met together for the advancement of the great cause of agriculture. Bro. Thomas Mars, in his greeting, cordially welcomed the Clubs in behalf of the Grange. President E. J. Cook, of the Association of Farmers' Clubs, responded gracefully, stating that the Grange was the elder brother

of the Clubs; that the aims of the two organizations are identical; the Clubs have the benefit of the Grange's experience. He urged that we work together as brother farmers for common ends. Especially urged support of The Michigan Farmer as the organ of the Grange and Clubs.

Hon. A. C. Bird, of the Board of Agriculture, gave a strong paper on the subject of "The Fee System in County Offices." Doubtless this paper will appear in The Farmer. Mr. Bird has investigated this subject thoroughly, and finds that the consensus of opinion in thirty states of the Union is an agreement that the fee system is an evil. The system is at fault more than the men. Yet the officers try to raise fees, and new fees are being added all the time, although records are easier to make than formerly. Sometimes officers make fees for themselves in various ways. One of the most serious objections is that of the secrecy on the part of officers as to the amount of fees received. The decided trend in all states of the Union is from the fee system to the salary system. The best way is to charge just fees, turn all fees into the treasury, and pay adequate salaries.

Mr. A. E. Palmer, of the Executive Committee of the State Grange, gave an enthusiastic talk in favor of "Farmers' Institutes, and State Aid Therefor." He stated that the object of the Institutes is to carry out from the College, to the people all over the State, the information and experiment which center at the College. Possibly the best results have been reached in the northern portion of the State, for there is positive enthusiasm in that section regarding Institutes; and yet there is room for this kind of work in the south, where the people are farther along in the study of agriculture, and the appropriation should be increased so that higher grades of work may be carried on in the south. It certainly would be a serious misfortune to stop the work here.

Mrs. E. L. Lockwood, Vice-President of the Association of Clubs, was unable to be present, and her topic, "The Farmer as a Citizen," was taken up by Mrs. D. M. Garner. Mrs. Garner has been a member of the Grange for twenty-five years, and says that she was born a radical. While we are farmers, we are first of all citizens, and at this stage of our country's history we need the greatest of patriotism. How are we prepared to civilize and improve these savage nations when we have such serious problems at home? The liquor question, Mormonism, the treatment of the Indian, the violation of the ballot—all of these are dangerous things in our government. There is danger that in our army young men will get into the liquor habit. If these evils go on, national destruction will come. The farmers can help mightily, and should.

Miss Jennie Buell, Secretary of the State Grange, read a beautifully written paper on the subject of "Association—National, State and Local." This will be printed in full in a later issue of The Farmer, and we shall not spoil the paper by any abstract at the present time.

The editor of this department read a paper entitled, "Sword and Plowshare," which dwelt upon the three lessons which may be learned by the farmers from the recent war with Spain, these being that the war was a triumph, (1) of manhood; (2) of education; (3) of co-operation. The fact was also brought out that the Grange and Clubs are laboring for these ends. The suggestion was made that the next step in advance was to get all of these various organizations to co-operate and work together for the common ends which farmers desire. Also that these organizations work hand in hand with those educational forces that are furnished by the State.

Governor Pingree was cordially greeted. He said that the farmers had the best end of the business. The man in the city must work for somebody else. The man on the farm works for himself. While he has observed that there are not very many young men on the farms of Michigan to-day, it is not going to be that way much longer—the tide is going to set in toward the farm. He came out strongly against expansion—stated that the conditions as he had seen them in Venezuela are said to be somewhat similar to those of our new possessions, and that he feels it is a dangerous tendency to try to hold such country. Said he was glad that the farmers were getting together. Urged them to help in the legislature



this winter, especially in regard to taxation. We must do something to do away with trusts. A generation ago a young man could start in business with small capital and work his way up. He can't do it to-day on account of the trusts. Governor Pingree believes in both an inheritance and income tax. He also made quite a strong plea for forestry legislation.

Although ex-Governor Luce was not on the program, he was called out by Bro. Horton, and was in his happiest mood. He emphasized what the Governor had said about forestry and expansion. In fact, he agreed with most everything that had been said—he was in his agreeable mood. He "jollied" the Governor by saying that it required a good deal more brains to be a farmer than a shoemaker, and closed with an eloquent appeal for the best brains on the farm.

The impression made by this union meeting of the Grange and Clubs will certainly inure to the benefit of the farmers of the State. The program was not too long; the audience did not get tired, and there was an atmosphere of cordiality and brotherly feeling that was very noticeable. The speakers did not feel that they were addressing two different organizations, nor that they were addressing an audience especially of farmers—they simply knew that they were standing before a well-dressed, good-looking, intelligent, attentive and appreciative audience of men and women. This meeting was certainly an inspiration to the members of both organizations, and an object lesson to the visitors who were fortunate enough to be present.

#### THURSDAY.

Thursday afternoon was devoted almost entirely to the election of officers. The only change made in officers was in that of Lecturer, Bro. Jason Woodman refusing to serve another term. Mrs. Frank Saunders, of Kent county, was elected. Brothers Palmer, Mars, Wright and Platt were elected to succeed themselves on the Executive Committee. The full list of officers of the State Grange is printed at the head of this department.

Thursday afternoon a very important resolution was adopted in regard to reports of the Michigan Pioneer Society. It seems that this Society has a by-law which allows their reports to be sent to incorporated libraries. Through the ardent efforts of Bro. Luce this was interpreted so that Grange libraries will be furnished with complete sets of the reports of this Society, upon proper application. The method of getting them will be described in due time. These reports are of great value, and will add to any Grange library already established, and will form a splendid nucleus for new libraries.

Thursday evening was devoted to the conferring of the fifth and sixth degrees, 36 being given the fifth degree, and fifty-four the sixth. The unwritten work was also exemplified.

#### FRIDAY.

The committee on education reported, endorsing the Agricultural College; the visiting of schools by Patrons; urged that rural schools be given especial attention; that there be better ventilation, pleasanter surroundings, better buildings; that we have good schools rather than cheap schools; and good teachers rather than cheap teachers; good books to read; and libraries in each district. Recommended that graduates of the Agricultural College be granted three-year certificates for teaching, renewable; and highly endorsed the Women's Course at the Agricultural College. Also endorsed the four-weeks' teachers' institutes. Also that the minimum age for holding teachers' certificates be raised to eighteen years. Recommended that the law be changed to provide for the distribution of school money on the basis of pupils who attend school five months out of the year, instead of on the basis of school population. This was referred to the Executive Committee. There was a long discussion over a recommendation in regard to uniform text books. The Grange finally adopted a resolution which endorsed the principle of uniform text books, but favored a repeal of the present law.

The standing committee on woman's work recommended that there be a committee on woman's work in every Subordinate Grange, and that the general objects of woman's work committees be: (1) To raise debts. (2) The decoration of rooms. (3) To keep in close touch with the district school. (4) To distribute and study the elementary science bulletins. (5) To encourage the formation of Teachers and Patrons' Associations. The report also urged

that children be admitted to the Grange during the Lecturer's hour; that especial attention be given to children's day, and that the fresh air work be enlarged and emphasized. A resolution was adopted for the printing of this report of woman's work, and to place a copy in every Grange.

The committee on co-operation endorsed the idea of co-operative selling; urged that as rapidly as possible machinery be formed for this purpose; recommended that there be in each Subordinate Grange a purchasing agent and assistant Secretary to help the Secretary in co-operative work; endorsed the idea of Grange Fire Insurance Companies.

The committee on Dormant Granges said that some Granges declined because the members can't attend, and some members can't attend because their children keep them at home. The committee urged that provision be made for caring for the children during Grange hour. Another cause of dormant Granges is that some members are disappointed in the financial benefits of the Grange.

The committee on the good of the order recommended a resolution against paying pensions to deserters in the army; urged that the Executive Committee make every effort to have the Grange department in The Farmer as complete as possible. Also recommended a resolution against the sending of newspapers beyond their term of subscription. Recommended that the State Lecturers issue quarterly bulletins; that there be county conferences of Subordinate Grange lecturers; that the State Lecturer be supplied with all the Grange papers; that the State Lecturer be paid a stated compensation; that appropriation be made for traveling libraries; that ritualistic work in the Subordinate Grange be carried on more perfectly.

A resolution was adopted inviting the National Grange to hold its meeting in Michigan in 1900.

The committee on Pomona Granges urged the biennial election of officers of Pomona Granges.

Friday afternoon the committee on taxation reported, favoring equal and just taxation, and commended the Master's address in this respect. Reported, without recommendation, a resolution which passed, demanding that mortgages be taxed as an interest in the real estate mortgaged.

The committee on by-laws of the State Grange reported a revision of the constitution and by-laws of the State Grange, so as to not conflict with the National Grange constitution, and put this matter into the hands of the Executive Committee to report upon at the next State Grange.

The committee on resolutions favored free rural mail delivery; opposed any measure that will prevent married women from teaching; asked the Secretary of Agriculture to prohibit the exportation of adulterated food products; condemned the distribution of seeds by the government; advocated the popular election of United States senators, the postal savings banks and condemned the canteen system in the army.

The committee on Agricultural College and Farmers' Institutes cordially commended the College under its present management, and advocated an appropriation sufficient to build a women's dormitory. In regard to Institutes, they recommended that the necessary appropriation be made, and urged better local management.

The committees on mileage and per diem; on by-laws of Subordinate Granges; on instruction to delegates to National Grange; on charity, made brief reports.

Committee on transportation urged the repeal of railroad charters that stand in the way of 2-cent passenger fares; demanded equal rates to all, especially on freight, and advocated a bill similar to the Atkinson bill, concurring with the Master's address on this subject.

The sub-committee of the Executive Committee on co-operation reported that there were contracts with over fifty firms, and spoke of the special success of the binding twine purchase; instructed the Worthy Master to further the work, and to secure the necessary clerical help.

The committee on agriculture reported that conditions indicate increasing prosperity among the farmers; recommended Governor Luce's "brain fertilizer" for every farm; that our boys and girls take advantage of M. A. C.; that some farmers keep their premises in a more cleanly shape; and that

implements and conveniences for the house be furnished to correspond with those out of doors.

The committee on legislative action reported that three of the five bills advocated by the Grange in the last legislature had become laws; favored a continuance of the work of the tax statistician; favored a measure somewhat in the line of the Kimmis county salaries bill; favored the Australian or Torrens system of transferring land titles; advocated that the township libraries be superseded by the school district libraries; favored an appropriation sufficient to enlarge Farmers' Institute work; an appropriation sufficient to enforce all our pure food laws; appropriation for building a women's dormitory at M. A. C., to accommodate 150 girls; instructed the appointment of a legislative committee; opposed an appropriation for the State Agricultural Society.

A resolution was adopted favoring an amendment to the law so that in any case where it was shown that a beet sugar trust was being maintained the bounty paid by the State should be withheld from those firms in the trust.

In the evening, the officers were installed by Sister Dills, of Dewitt Grange, after which the Grange listened to inspiring remarks from Worthy Master Horton, Bro. Thomas Mars, Sister Mayo, Bro. Kay, and Bros. Heck and Nevins, who will both be in the next legislature.

The Grange closed in form.

Professor Barnard Thomas had charge of the music during all of the Grange sessions, and has the heartiest thanks of all Patrons present for the pleasure given by his singing.

#### GRANGE NEWS.

Madison Grange, Lenawee Co.—December 2, initiated in the third and fourth degrees. Bro. White, of Onsted Grange read an interesting paper on travels to his former English home. A goodly number of visitors were present from Onsted, Adrian, and Fruit Ridge Granges.—E. W. A.

South Dover Grange, No. 720, Lenawee Co., has instituted a contest to last through the next four meetings. At our last meeting a class of ten was taken through the fourth degree. Several visitors were present from Medina and Cadmus Granges.—M. E. B., Cor.

Ashland Grange, No. 545, Newaygo Co., December 3 celebrated the Grange anniversary. Our Grange was organized twenty-four years ago. Mr. Reinoldt gave us a very interesting history of our Grange. We are going to give an entertainment and supper December 10, the proceeds to go to the Grange treasury.—Minnie A. Brink.

Newaygo County Pomona will meet with Askance Grange, Wednesday and Thursday, December 28 and 29, 1898. A good attendance is desired. Annual election of officers Wednesday evening. A most cordial invitation is extended to all who are interested in agriculture or fruit-growing to meet with us and help make the meeting interesting and profitable.—C. K.

Woodstock Grange, No. 438, Lenawee Co.—At special meeting held December 3, conferred first, second and third degrees on six. We now have much of the paraphernalia needed and the work is more impressive. Was a large attendance at this meeting; the Kimmis salary bill was discussed; majority in favor of the bill. Next Saturday night expect to confer fourth degree and have a feast. We believe we are getting as many new members as any of them, and we are not trying hard either.—Emma C. Swartout.

Berrien Center Grange, No. 14, Berrien Co., holds regular meetings every Saturday evening; never was in a better condition. Have about 65 members, with good average attendance. Have a good literary program for each evening, during the rendering of which the children are admitted from the lower hall and take part in same. During recess, have apples, popcorn and doughnuts for refreshments. At next meeting Bro. Thos. Mars will read his autobiography, and Bro. E. Murphy will tell an interesting story of his early days. Our old organ is the only contrary member we have, and we are preparing to buy a new one by giving entertainments.—Adah Murphy, Cor.

North Rome Grange, No. 735, Lenawee Co.—At last meeting only a few were present, but we are alive yet, and more new names are in for membership. The order for groceries was received, and goods found as represented; another order was taken. The program consisted of declamations, recita-

tions, and short speeches on "The Navy, and its power in War," and descriptions of the warships. Your correspondent visited Hudson Center Grange November 5, and had a good time. Had the pleasure of seeing their new hall and two candidates initiated. They are expecting Will Carleton, the poet, there to give them a lecture in the near future. The Michigan Farmer will be in more of the homes of the Grangers this coming year than ever before.—W. C. Bancroft, Cor.

Cedar Springs Grange, Kent Co.—The evening of December 2 will be a green spot in the history of Cedar Springs Grange. The third and fourth degrees were conferred on six candidates with the usual pleasant ceremony. This Grange has a very fine home, which is always very attractive with the fine furniture, etc., but on this occasion the center of the room was made even more attractive by a table extending the entire length, loaded with such things to eat as the Grange alone can furnish. Of course ample justice was done at the table. Mr. Frank Saunders and son, of Courtland Grange, kindly assisted. At the next meeting we expect to confer the third and fourth degrees on four more new candidates, and so the good work goes on.—C. R. Allmand, Cor.

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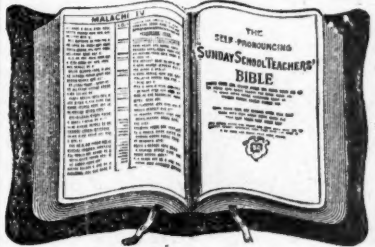
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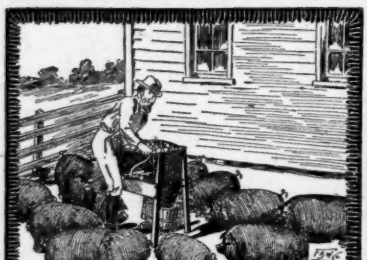
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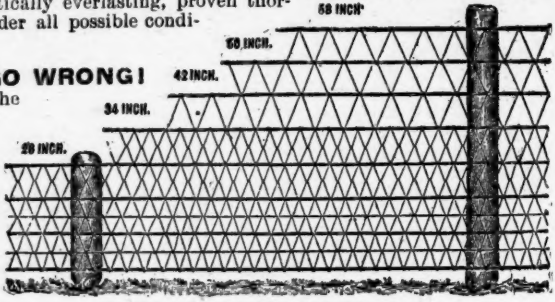
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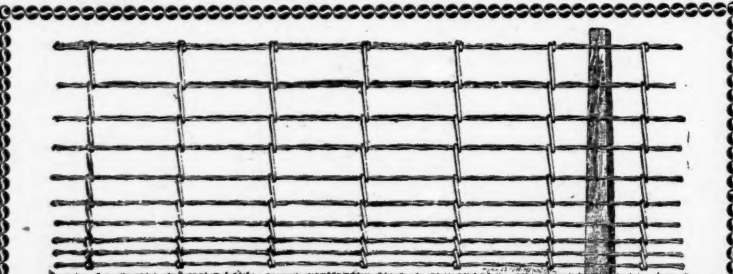
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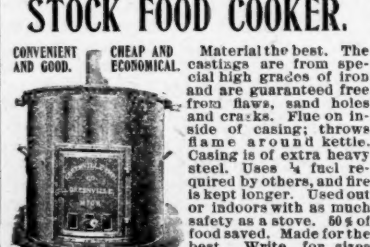
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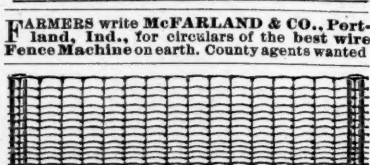
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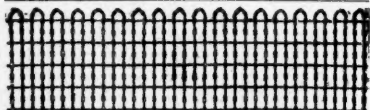
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